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THE TIMES

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THE TIMES

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Prospect
John Woodcock looks ahead at the chances for England in the last Test in Pakistan

Maputo and Pretoria in peace pact

After 10 years of hostility, South Africa and Mozambique signed a non-aggression pact. Mozambique will prevent African National Congress guerrillas from using its territory to raid South Africa, while Pretoria will stop supporting insurgents fighting the Mozambique Government Page 4

Lawyers attack 'low pay' deal

The Law Society and the Bar have protested to the Lord Chancellor over what they say are dangerously low pay levels agreed for solicitors and barristers doing criminal legal aid work Page 3

Dollar higher

The dollar rose sharply in volatile currency markets, helped by the prospect of cuts in the United States budget deficit. The pound eased 1.6 cents to $1.4470 Page 21

Shares surge

Shares raced ahead again on the stock market yesterday. The FT Index closed 18.7 up at a near-record 894.3, making a rise of 29.7 in two days Market Report, page 22

NGA blueprint

The National Graphical Association has put forward proposals for union reorganization on provincial newspapers that would lead to the NGA relinquishing its monopoly on typesetting Page 2

Patient stable

Mrs Jean Jones, the First British patient to receive a combined heart and lung transplant, is said to be in a stable condition in Harefield Hospital, west London

After Trudeau

Mr John Turner, the front runner to succeed Mr Pierre Trudeau as leader of Canada's Liberals, yesterday confirmed his candidacy Page 4

BMA president

Lord Pitt, the Labour peer who practises as a family doctor in London, will be next year's president of the British Medical Association Page 3

Abbey security

Security system is being overhauled at Woburn Abbey, in Bedfordshire, from where antique silver valued at £5m was stolen recently Page 2

Grand slam

Scotland, having secured rugby's triple crown, aim to beat France at Murrayfield today to complete the grand slam in the five nations championship for the first time since 1925 Page 32

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Heavy fines loom as flying pickets intensify pit strike

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Striking Yorkshire miners laid siege yesterday to pits where the men have voted to work on, and their union now faces heavy fines for contempt of High Court injunctions against secondary picketing.

National Coal Board lawyers have been given leave to bring a "short notice" contempt action on Monday against the Yorkshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers, after a second day of defiance of court orders.

With only 11 out of 175 collieries working normally, secret ballots conducted in traditionally moderate areas showed a majority of as much as four to one against joining the strike.

In south Derbyshire 83.5 per cent voted against joining the week-old strike against pit closures.

In the Midlands the anti-stroke vote was 73 per cent, and in Lancashire, usually regarded as a reliable "barometer" of miners' feelings, it was 59 per cent.

In north Derbyshire unofficial returns suggested a marginal vote for striking.

The Northumberland vote went to a third recount and yielded a 52 per cent majority for striking.

However, in parts of the Midlands, the pits are likely to remain idle because local union leaders are advising members not to cross picket lines formed by miners from Yorkshire, South Wales and Kent.

Mr Jack Taylor, the Yorkshire miners' president said "good-humoured and peaceful picketing" had raised the number of striking collieries to more than 90 per cent and events had proved that the Yorkshire pickets' image portrayed in the press was wrong.

He said: "Events show that where our lads have the chance

HOW THE MINERS ARE VOTING

Area	For	Against
South Derbyshire	453	2,303
Midlands	2,804	7,556
Lancashire	2,596	3,765

to talk to fellow miners, not only is there no trouble, but we are winning their support. I would say to all our lads, 'You're doing a magnificient job'. Responsible and peaceful picketing has always been our union's policy."

Although only two Yorkshire pickets were arrested and fined yesterday, the board will argue in court on Monday that the union has flagrantly breached orders that it must not organize or encourage secondary picketing.

After the area ballots against a strike, moderate coalfield leaders are calling for an early meeting of the union's national executive in the hope of securing a national vote on whether the 240,000 members should be called out.

A 55 per cent majority would be needed before all-out industrial action could be mounted, and on the basis of votes taken in the moderate areas it seems unlikely that this figure would be reached.

The executive could be convened by Tuesday, but the left's tactic seems to be to delay calling a national ballot as long as possible in the hope of creating a total stoppage

Pickets moved out of Nottinghamshire yesterday after a private union deal that left the coalfield practically srikebound while a ballot took place.

They went to the Midlands and Leicestershire, massing in crowds of up to 400 at colliery entrances. Some men still went in and 11 mines were working normally.

All the pits will be halted at the weekend because of the nationwide overtime ban, now in its fifth month, and the pickets were expected to disperse after the last shift went on late last night. However, police reinforcements will be ready to deal with any pit gate disturbances when work resumes on Monday at 6am.

Political support for the miners came yesterday from Mr Tony Benn, newly elected Labour MP for Chesterfield, Derbyshire. Theirs was a "make or break struggle" he argued.

"If the miners are picked off one by one, everybody else will go down the chute. Solidarity is essential," he said.

He refused to condemn anti-social behaviour by pickets because, he said, he had not seen any.

Midlands votes to carry on working

By Craig Seton

Miners at 11 collieries in Staffordshire and Warwickshire have voted by three-to-one against strike action, rebuffing left-wing hopes of a national pit stoppage.

Last night, however, there were growing fears that flying pickets could return there. The NUM Midlands area council, which has recommended strike action, advised members not to try to cross picket lines "on grounds of safety."

The Midlands area ballot of the 13,000 miners in the two counties produced 7,556 votes against a strike and 2,804 in favour of one.

The no-strike vote was declared on a day when five of the 11 collieries in the area were working normally after the arrival for the first time of flying pickets from Yorkshire and South Wales at two large collieries, where local men joined the picket line.

The result was announced after a stormy 90-minute meeting of the NUM area council, which issued no instructions to local pickets to withdraw.

Mr Joe McKie, area president said that although his men had voted to work the council advised them not to cross mass picket lines.

"We are asking them not to go through on grounds of safety. We are not calling them out on strike."

"Their voice has been heard and the national executive will have to pay heed to the Midlands area. We are asking them to call a national ballot."

Mr McKie said that the message of his miners to Yorkshire leaders, and to Mr Arthur Scargill, union president, who is expected in the area today, was: "Instruct your pickets to go home."

Mr Jim Colgan, general secretary of the Midlands area, said that the ballot's message was that the men wanted to work. The vote could be seen as a deliberate protest against the mass picketing of Nottinghamshire.

Continued on Back page, col 2

Police told to limit pickets

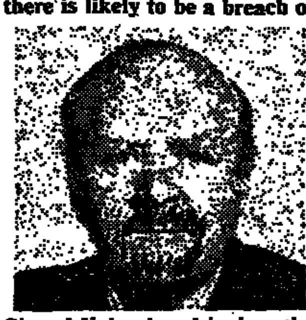
By Our Political Correspondent

Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, yesterday encouraged the police to act "vigorously and without fear or favour" to make sure that no more than six pickets were allowed at the entrance to any pit.

In a written Commons reply, Sir Michael said that the courts had recognized the right of the police to limit the number of pickets "in any place where they have reasonable cause to fear a breach of the peace."

The code of practice issued under the 1980 Employment Act had indicated "that in general, the numbers of pickets should not exceed six at any entrance". Police powers allowed them to ask some pickets to leave and to prevent others from joining the line.

It was for the police to decide what action was required, but Sir Michael added: "If a constable reasonably comes to the conclusion that persons are travelling for the purpose of taking part in a picket where there is likely to be a breach of



Sir Michael: Limit the pickets to six

the peace, he has the power at common law to call upon them not to continue their journey."

Anyone who failed to comply with such a request would be obstructing a police officer in the course of his duty.

Sir Michael said "the vast majority of the people of this country" would support vigorous action to enforce the law.

● Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader, condemned picket line violence and told miners: "the best way to picket is the peacful way."

Farm cash warning before EEC summit

From Ian Murray, Brussels

There will be no money for EEC farmers in December if the European summit fails to sort out the grave financial problems of the Community. It was against this stern warning from the Commission that farm ministers yesterday went back to work in Brussels to try to agree an austerity price package for the Community's eight million farmers.

Without such a package it will be difficult, if not impossible, for the summit, beginning on Monday, to work out the scale of the financial compromises that must be made. Unless Mrs Thatcher is convinced that it means agricultural spending has been taken firmly under control, there is no chance of her reaching an overall agreement.

The agriculture ministers were being asked to accept an average 1 per cent decrease in Community prices. Farmers would be insulated against this by a partial removal of the "green" currency exchange rates, which artificially adjust prices to make allowance for currency variations.

The best estimates were that the final proposals would still cost the Community a minimum of £200m over the amount available. In addition, there would be a bill of at least £300m to phase out the green currencies.

While France, which is chairing the farm meeting, is pressing on to complete the paper on agriculture, there is no sign of its proposals for resolving the British budget problem. These have been expected all week.

Brussels countdown, page 4



Anonymous traveller: One of five Libyan students at Heathrow Airport yesterday being deported after police investigations into the recent bomb attacks on Arab targets

Cautious backing by Syria for Gemayel

From Robert Fisk, Lausanne

After a week of scarcely perceptible progress at the Lebanese reconiliation talks at Lausanne, the Syrians are insisting that the principle – if not the membership – of a government of national unity, must be agreed by the rival Lebanese politicians and militia leaders before the conference ends.

But they are making it perfectly clear that if the Phalangist militia in Beirut attempts to break the latest cease fire and destroy the results of the conference, then Syria will be obliged to rearm and resupply is Shia Muslim and Druze allies for another round of bloody fighting.

Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam, the Syrian vice-president has not, according to all parties to the talks, attempted to lay down the law; nor has he adopted a hectoring approach, either towards the Christians or the Muslims in the conference chamber.

But Syria is *totally* rejecting Christian proposals for a federal, cantonal system of government in Lebanson, and is now letting it be known what sort of country President Hafez el Assad would like to see emerging from the Lausanne meeting.

The Damascus government, it transpires, wants to see more political power given to the Sunni Muslim prime minister, a second parliamentary chamber, a constitutional court, and a national army that does not come under the control of Christian Maronites or any other single religious group in Lebanon.

While Mr Khaddam is officially only an observer at the talks, he is adamant that the present ceasefire in Lebanon must be observed by all parties. As one delegate put it yesterdat: "Syria does not want a political ceasefire in Lausanne followed by another civil war."

It is for this reason that the Syrians have told Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader, that they will not go along with his demand to put President Amin Gemayel on trial for "war crimes" after the government army's shelling of the Chouf mountains.

While the Lebanese president may be obliged to admit that a civil war has been going on in Lebanon – not a battle against foreign-instigated insurgency as he still claims – Syria is backing Gemayel's national leadership.

The Damascus government is gravely concerned, however, that the Phalangists in Beirut may not heed their political representatives in Lausanne.

Kidnap, back page

Warner deal expected

Trading in shares of Warner Communications and Chris-Craft Industries was halted on Wall Street yesterday as rumours circulated that the entertainment conglomerate had negotiated a settlement with Mr Rupert Murdoch, one of its largest shareholders.

Since early January, Mr Murdoch, the Australian newspaper magnate, has been engaged in a fierce battle for control of up to 49.9 per cent of Warner shares in the face of strong opposition from the company's managment and their corporate ally, Chris-Craft Industries.

Both Warner and Chris-Craft said they would have important announcements to make, which would affect the shares of both

Analysts said it appeared that Warner had agreed to buy back from Mr Murdoch, at a premium price...the 5,568,000 Warner shares which he has bought since the takeover battle was launched.

Societies cut home loan rate to 10.25%

By Jonathan Clare and Peter Wilson-Smith

Building societies cut the mortgage rate by a full percentage point to 10.25 per cent yesterday. The larger than expected cut will leave nearly six million home buyers better off from next month and put pressure on the banks to reduce their rates.

Bank mortgages had been cheaper for some time, but the new building society rates, which apply immediately on new mortgages, leave the banks charging more. Mortgage rates from the big four clearing banks range from 11 per cent to 11.75 per cent.

There are hopes that National Westminster, the most aggressive in the mortgage market, and Lloyds Bank, the most expensive for new borrowers, will announce a reduction next week.

A cut of 0.5 to 0.75 of a percentge point had been expected at yesterday's special meeting of the Building Societies Association council. But with interest rates falling elsewhere, and some helpful measures for societies in the Budget, they decided at the last minute on a bigger reduction.

Rates for depositors are also coming down by 1 percentage point to 6.25 per cent on the ordinary share rate. This will still allow the societies to widen margins, which have been squeezed by the Government's decision to tax societies on profits on government stocks.

Homebuyers who pay basic rate tax will save £9 a month on a £20,000 mortgage with the cut in rates, which is also welcome news for the Government: it will lop nearly half a percentage point off the inflation rate.

Together with the cuts in stamp duty announced in the Budget, cheaper mortgages are likely to boost the housing market, with lending by the societies already showing signs of picking up strongly.

Mr Herbert Walden, chairman of the BSA, said yesterday that lending over the next few months was likely to be a record £2 billion a month. But he ruled out any further cuts in rates in the near future.

He said the new tax on government stocks would encourage building societies to run down their liquidity. "This will add several hundred million pounds a month to mortgage lending for a few months." Mr Walden said.

Monthly repayments net of basic rate tax relief over 25 years

Mortgage	Building society rate 10.25%	11.25%
£10,000	£73	£77
£20,000	£146	£155
£30,000*	£219	£232
£40,000	£374	£403
£50,000	£468	£504

*Upper limit for tax relief. Repayments on larger mortgages are shown before tax relief.

Brittan accepts phone-tap controls

By Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

Mr Leon Britten, the Home Secretary, has accepted that phone-tapping should be subject to statutory controls.

The Government's Telecommunications Bill has already been amended by the Lords to insert a clause, which implements the precise procedures laid down in a 1980 White Paper, *The Interception of Communications in Great Britain*.

Lord Whitelaw, a former Home Secretary, will however, assure the Lords on Monday that if that clause is withdrawn, ministers will bring in specific legislation in the next session of Parliament.

It was emphasized yesterday that a new Bill would include the provisions of the White Paper, and be able to incorporate any changes which might be necessary after a European Court of Human Rights hearing on the Malone case.

Mr James Malone, a Surrey antiques dealer, has taken the Government to the court because his telephone was tapped without statutory authority.

Before the Lords pre-empted the European Court judgment, on February 21, they were told by Lord Edmund-Davies, the former Lord of Appeal in Ordinary: "This is a matter of the greatest constitutional importance.

"No secretary of state in any government must be able to say: 'You cannot inquire into this matter at all; I have issued a warrant. You may consider, you may be convinced – indeed, it may be apparent to everybody – that there was no ground on which a warrant could be issued, but nothing can be done about it'."

Under legislation, there would be the authority for court challenge and although ministers accept that there might be a marginal penalty to pay in the effectiveness of police and intelligence investigation of serious crime and terrorism, that would be more than balanced by the benefit to the rights of the citizen.

Ministers are obviously satisfied that the procedures of the White Paper, independently monitored first by Lord Diplock and then by Lord Bridge of Harwich, are satisfactory. They also accept however that there is public suspicion

Interceptions can be used: for the investigtion of serious crime – any offence which would probably attract a sentence of more than three years for someone with no previous record; for the investigation of serious drugs offences by Customs and Excise; and for security service investigation of "major subversive, terrorist or espionage activiy

The number of telephone-tap warrants issued by the Home Secretary, for England and Wales, in 1978 was 428.

Russians praise high-living British

From Richard Owen Moscow

To the sound of bodies turning in graves from Red Square to Highgate cemetery the Soviet press revealed yesterday that the average British worker – normally depicted as the downtrodden victim of capitalism – is in fact far better off than his Russian counterpart, not least because he works harder.

The standard of living of a skilled British worker is somewhat higher than ours", the trade union daily *Trud* (Labour) reported, referring for proof to unusually detailed statistics on jeans and colour televisions rather than the theories of Lenin and Marx. The paper's former London correspondent, Mr Aleksei Burmistenko, told readers he had visited dozens of British factories, from textile plants to car works, during a four-year stint.

"In general British workers in both industry and agriculture work more intensively than ours, and their productivity is higher", he observed. "I can testify that the rhythm of work is much tighter, smoking breaks are strictly limited, and absenteesim, drunkenness, or poor quality are very severely punished, usually by dismissal" Mr Burmistenko added.

***Trud* was responding to a letter from a girl student asking how much bread, jeans, cars, and rent cost in the West. This is of consuming interest to all Russians, by the fact that most desirable goods come from the West even though the Kremlin says capitalism is disintegrating.**

***Trud* explained that the average British worker earns £600 a month, or 684 roubles at the official and grossly unrealistic exchange rate.**

Compared to the average Soviet monthly wage of 150-200 roubles this seems princely. But *Trud* pointed out that taxation reduces it to £390, and that exorbitant housing, gas, electricity, and telephone charges reduced it further.

That *Trud* had been obliged to pay 800 for their correspondent to rent a three-room London flat. Council flats, Mr Burmistenko notes, are cheaper, but there is a waiting list from which foreigners are excluded. Taking mortgages and rents together, he suggests, the average family spends £100-£150 a month on housing. Families on unemployment benefit and old age pensioners find life difficult if not tragic, with the aged dying of hypothermia and the jobless unable to pay the rent.

Yet, it seems, the British system comes out on top. With the £180 a month he has left over, Fred can buy what Ivan can only dream of or sometimes queue for.

***Trud* gives a working class shopping list (at pre Budget prices): beef at £4 a kilogram, cigarettes at £1 a packet, whisky at £72 a bottle, and £10-£18 for those much coveted jeans. The British worker also reads *The Times*, which costs him £62 a year. A car, equivalent to a Soviet Fiat-style Zhiguli – though mercifully there are no equivalents – sets the British worker back £4-5,000. His Russian counterpart pays at least twice that after a two-year wait, and cannot buy foreign makes.**

Mr Burmistenko reminds readers that there are many unskilled workers in Britain, and over three million unemployed but concludes that Russians will have to work a lot harder if they are to beat capitalism. They cannot join it after all, since Communism remains "the most humane system", dedicated to social and economic justice.

Printing union's new technology plan gets a cool reception

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Union leaders last night put forward far-reaching proposals for union reorganization in provincial newspapers, which would lead to the National Graphical Association relinquishing its traditional monopoly on typesetting.

The NGA plan, which involves dividing union membership in the provincial press with two other unions on an equal share basis, would guarantee that no non-union workers would be allowed access to new technology for typesetting.

Mr Tony Dubbins, NGA general secretary elect, said that he hoped the proposals would dispel the myth of the NGA as "irrational bullies" and "Luddites".

The union's blueprint for the industry was delivered to the other two TUC-affiliated unions, Sogat '82 and the National Union of Journalists, who gave it a guarded reception. The employers said it was a "disappointment" because it did not represent any realistic advance on the NGA's position of eight years ago.

Mr Dubbins said the NGA was being guided by four main principles, in addition to the overriding condition that there should be no compulsory redundancies. The four requirements were: unity of the trade unions; allowing trade unions a "stake" in the introduction of new technology; equal division of the labour force between Sogat '82, NUJ and NGA; and that access to keyboards should remain a unionized operation.

He made clear that the NGA would not agree to members of the non-TUC Institute of Journalists (IoJ) being given access to visual display terminals (VDTs) for direct inputting of copy to the typesetting computer systems. The union, however, strongly resisted any suggestion that it was trying to impose a closed shop on journalists.

"There is nothing to stop a non-union journalist continuing to supply copy to the paper in handwritten form, or by using a typewriter or even a VDT with a hard copy print-out. The NGA however, is not prepared to allow non-unionists to set type that has been a fully unionized operation for decades", the NGA proposals say.

About 45,000 people work in provincial newspapers. They include 11,000 NGA members, 9,200 Sogat members and 8,000 journalists, of whom about 6,000 are members of the NUJ and the remainder IoJ and non-union.

In the vast majority of newspapers which are equipped with new technology the NGA controls typesetting. In some houses non-NGA members have access to VDTs, but that access falls short of direct input.

The NGA proposals allow for the creation of a "wider origination" incorporating advertising, marketing, administration, journalistic work and production as a single entity where membership would be divided between the unions.

However, new employees would be expected to join the appropriate union and the NGA says that could entail an NGA member transferring to the NUJ for the duration of employment with a particular company.

This led the Newspaper Society, the employers' organization, to suggest that the NGA was trying to impose a "triple closed shop for those using typesetting equipment. The NGA denies that this would create a closed shop in the editorial area because non-union journalists could still provide copy without having direct access to typesetting. This is a spurious argument."

NGA officials said yesterday that the proposals were unlikely to provide a basis for the introduction of new technology into Fleet Street.

● Agreement is close on a pay deal worth more than 7 per cent for NGA members in Newspaper Society offices.

● Management at *The Financial Times* is investigating the possibility of printing in the United States, using satellite transmission from either its London or Frankfurt printing centre.

● The *Daily Telegraph* has signed a £20m contract for printing presses for its new works in the Isle of Dogs, east London, which is due to come into operation by 1987.

French set to tackle Scottish drink laws

From Ronald Faux
Edinburgh

French rugby fans began arriving in Edinburgh yesterday in their thousands for the international Grand Slam match against Scotland at Murrayfield today. A chartered jumbo jet touched down at Turnhouse airport, the first of 15 similar flights, and the airport was thronged with French supporters.

They could be distinguished not only by their coloured scarves and hats, but by the prodigious quantities of wine they brought in with them for celebration in victory of commiseration in defeat. There were litre bottles, boxes, and five-litre camping vessels of wine carried by rugby enthusiasts who were already jubilant 24 hours before the match.

They were met at the airport by police posters printed in English and French warning them to beware of offending the strict and peculiarly Scottish laws on drinking at sporting occasions. In the face of such a wine lake, the posters seemed ominous indeed.

What Scotland gives with one hand in the Licensing (Scotland) Act of 1976 which liberalized a previously strict regime, the country may seem to take away with the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act of 1980. This lays down heavy penalties for anyone taking alcohol into a football or rugby ground. It allows police to confiscate alcohol or any container that could cause harm if thrown and to stop and search coaches bound for matches. The law was brought in after a spate of football violence.

The French supporters who find their wine boxes and bottles rudely removed today might then appreciate the more tolerant attitude in Scotland shown in the 1976 licensing law introduced after the Clayson Committee had concluded that some of Scotland's severe alcohol-related problems were a result of forcing down too much drink in too little time. The new law led to all-day opening in some areas and a generally much less restricted attitude.

Both laws have been noted with interest and some envy south of the border because both in their opposite ways have noticeably reduced the problems caused by drink.

Match preview, page 32



Mr Igloe wearing the working helmet he once used and inspecting the older one he found.

Viking helmet goes public

The York Helmet goes on public display from Monday at the city's Castle Museum after being found two years ago on a building site.

Mr Jimmy Igoe, aged 52, a labourer now living in Keighley, West Yorkshire, spotted the helmet while working with Wimpeys on the Castle Gate shopping centre.

He said: "It's a good job I stopped the excavator driver at that moment because the helmet could have been lost forever under a bed of concrete. It is quite ironic. The archaeologists were digging and made the most important discovery of all time. I don't want a reward, just the satisfaction of finding it."

Dr Graham Nicholson, the curator of the museum said: "It is the most exciting find this century."

The helmet was repaired by experts at the British Museum but York City Council refused to take archaeological and museological advice and insisted that it be kept in the city.

Four seek training aircraft contract

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The RAF amnnounced yesterday that it had produced a shorlist of four contenders for a contract to provide a new flying training aircraft. The contract may eventually be worth £200m.

The present basic trainer, the Jet Provost, first entered service with the RAF in 1955, and the Ministry of Defence has to decided whether to embark on a substantial programme of renovation or to replace it.

Orginally 23 possible replacement aircraft from 11 contries were put forward, but these have now been whittled down to the independently promoted British aircraft, the Firecracker, the Brazilian Embraer Tucano, with which Short, of Belfast, is collaborating, the A-20 produced by the Australian Aircraft Consortium, and the Swiss Pilatus PC-9.

These aircraft all have turbo-propeller engines, which means the RAF has ruled out the possibility of adopting a turbo fan jet aircraft. In so doing it has eliminated British Aerospace's contender.

This has led British Aerospace to link with Pilatus in a cooperation agreement to manufacture the PC-9. The move was denounced yesterday by the backers of the British Firecracker as a "panic" measure when British Aerospace discovered it was not on the short list.

Firecracker is concerned that if British Aerospace markets the basically Swiss PC-9 abroad, particularly in conjunction with its highly successful Hawk advanced flying trainer, it will rule out any chance of exporting an all-British basic trainer.

A Firecracker spokesmen said: "Why cannot British Aerospace market Firecracker as a lead into the Hawk?

"I think it is catastrophic that we as a country cannot get together to produce a British solution to a British problem, which is that of supplying a replacement for the Jet Provost.

"This is literally going to kill any overseas sales. for Firecracker."

Land Rover output at standstill

By Clifford Webb
Motoring Correspondent

Land Rover production was at a standstill last night and 5,000 workers laid off because of a strike.

All 500 hourly paid workers at the Green body pressing plant in Birmingham walked out two days ago after a pressing tool was moved to Freight Rover, the group's van-making subsidiary a few miles away.

Workers are concerned about plans to close nine satellite factories, including Bordesley Green, over the next two years and concentrate production at the Solihull headquarters.

Capacity will be almost doubled by the reopining of the adjoining Rover car factory, "mothballed" three years ago after Rover car production moved to Cowley, near Oxford.

The strike is seen by management as an attempt to force it to reveal more details of the rationalization and, in particular, to name the 1,500 employees to lose their jobs.

Tories angered at inability to quell Oman affair

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Senior government sources are perplexed and angered by the dilemma facing the Prime Minister over the Omani university contract.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher has discussed the matte with Senior ministerial colleagues, but it is agreed that for every piece of information volunteered another deluge of more detailed questions is bound to pour down on 10 Downing Street.

One Whitehall source said yesterday that a Downing Street statement, issued late on Thursday night, about the social arrangements which had been attended by both the Prime Minister and Mr Jamil Amyuni, the Middle East director of Cementation, was an example of the problem.

Both encounters had been social, no business had been discussed on either occassion, but questions were being put about the nature of the second social event, and who had invited Mr Amyuni to Mrs Thatcher's Finchley constituency twenty-first anniversary dinner in 1980. It is known that Mr Amyuni is a friend of Mr Mark Thatcher's.

It was therefore stated that Downing Street would not give any more information, either on or off the recoed, to add to the spate of unfounded innuendo.

Although ministers believe that the Prime Minister's reputation is not being harmed by the inessant publicity, they are at pains to convince journalists that there is no cover-up of any difficulty, because there can be no question about Mrs Thatcher's integrity.

But whe it is suggested that someone not connected with Mrs Thatcher have made a commerical killing by using the Prime Minister's name, one senior source replied that that could not necessarily be avoided. No minister, it was said, could be responsible for the actions of people who were essentially "name-dropping".

It is accepted that the newspaper articles will probably continue, but that Mrs Thatcher's best policy will be a determined and unbroken silence.

The Commons Order Paper yesterday carried a Conservative motion in defence of Mrs Thatcher, signed by 94 backbenchers. The motion had, unusually, been sponsored by the executive of the backbench 1922 Committee as a declaration of complete confidence and support.

Security at Woburn to be improved

By John Witherow

The burglary at Woburn Abbey in Bedfordshire in which antique silver valued at £5m was stolen has prompted Lord Tavistock to overhaul the security systems which appears to have been evaded easily by the thieves.

Lord Tavistock, who arrived from a holiday in the Cayman Islands, said: "We shall have to uprate the whole system. I cannot understand how they got through our security."

The thieves used a ladder to enter through a first floor window in the north wing, picking a section with closed circuit television and managing not to set off any alarms.

He and the police appealed yesterday for the return of the 47 items, which included a salver weighing 40lb and the Reform Cup, a silver trophy commemorating the passing of the 1832 Reform Act.

Lord Tavistock, aged 44, said he was "deeply pained" at the possibility of the items being melted down. "You cannot let it dominate your life."

Det Chief Supt Brian Prickett, who is in charge of the investigation, hoped that the £100,000 reward offered by the insurers would encourage the underworld "to earn a quick bob or two and give us information".

It seems, however, that the thieves knew exactly what they were looking for, ignoring several valuable items, and this has prompted speculation that the objects have been smuggled abroad for a special buyer.

Lord Tavistock, who took over the abbey from his father, the Duke of Bedford, eight years ago, said that he hoped to open the estate to the public this weekend. His father, who is on holiday in Indonesia, had telephoned him yesterday morning: "He said just two words to me – Oh God".

Wagnerian pythons 'ill-treated'

A circus snake charmer denied yesterday causing unnecessary suffering to five Indian pythons and transporting them in unsuitable containers.

Poole magistrates were told that Mrs Tara Lightburn left the snakes, named after characters in Wagner's ring cycle, at the resort's acquarium after returning from Italy. One was sick and three others suffering from scale rot, Dr Oliphant Jackson told the court.

Mrs Lightburn, aged 40, of Wallisdown, Bournemouth, said that normally she kept the snakes at home, where they had the run of the house, a heated room and bath full of water. But a temporary seperation from her husband John, who also denied causing unecessary suffering, ruled out that shelter from the winter.

Dr Jackson said that one of the snakes' traveling trunks was rusty with sharp edges, producing head lesions on three pythons as they tried to escape.

The case was adjourned until May 25.

Complaint over 'Panorama' may go to commission

The Conservative Party chairman, Mr John Gummer, said yesterday that the party was considering making a formal complaint to the Broadcasting Complaints Commission over a BBC1 *Panorama* programme on alleged right-wing infiltration of the party.

In a statement, he said the programme "gave a grossly distorted and exaggerated picture of the facts". He said that, despite meetings between representatives of the party and the BBC, the corporation had not answered any of the complaints made about the programme.

Fewer MP directorships

The new House of Commons appears less wealthy and less active in the boardroom, according to the first Commons Register of Members' Interests in the present Parliament, published yesterday.

A comparison of the last register, dated January 17, 1983, and the current register on February 7 shows there are now fewer directorships and fewer members of Lloyd's, even though the number of MPs has increased.

In the last Parliament MPs registered more than 400 directorships, compared with about 390 in the latest register.

Membership of Lloyd's, which requires free assets worth 100,000, has fallen from 52 to 7, including a new Labour MP, Mr Stuart Bell, a barrister and former journalist.

Other new MPs who have registered Lloyd's membership are Mr David Heathcoat-Amory (Wells) and Mr Michael Howard (Folkestone and Hythe).

Where an MP has a shareholding of a nominal value of more than 1 per cent of a company's issued share capital, that interest should also be registered. The number of MPs registering shareholdings has risen from 99 to 107.

Just over 100 MPs have registered a nil return on nine interests – directorships, employment, trades or professions, clients, sponsorships, overseas visits, land and property, payments from overseas, and shareholdings.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the former Cabinet minister, has refused the directorships which would be offered to a former senior minister and that, with his many public speaking engagements, will be taken to indicate his total commitment to the Commons.

Another former Cabinet minister, Sir Geoffrey Rippon, Conservative MP for Hexham, probably holds the record for directorships, with 29 registered, including 27 chairmanships.

Other MPs are less specific. Mr Edward du Cann, Conservative MP for Taunton and chairman of the backbench 1922 Committee, simply notes under directorships: Lonrho Ltd and associated companies and certain other lesser companies in financial, property and trading fields."

Huxley is Trinity favourite

By Peter Hennessy

Names of the two front-runners for the Mastership of Trinity College, Cambridge, have filtered through cracks in the walls of secrecy placed around the elaborate selection procedure by Professor Ian Glynn, Vice-Master of the college, who has enjoined its 120 fellows to silence.

After the first exploratory visit to Trinity of Mr John Catford, the Downing Steet Appointments Secretary, acting on behalf of the Prime Minister, who will advise the Queen on whom to pick as successor to Sir Alan Hodgkin, Professor Sir Andrew Huxley, of University College London (an eminent biophysicist and former Trinity man) is way ahead.

But Professor Sir Michael Atiyah, the distinguished Oxford mathematician, like Sir Andrew a Trinity man and an honorary fellow of the college, is making a strong showing as the "anti-establishment" candidate.

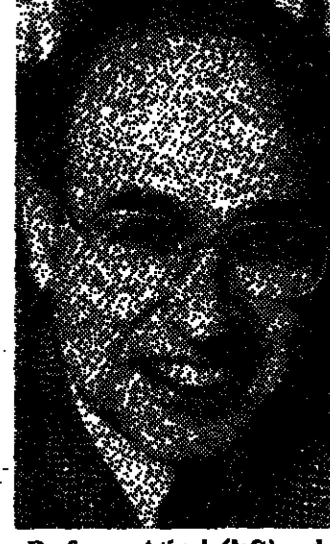
Given the element of prime ministerial patronage involved, a surprise choice could still be made. But it is clear that Mrs Margaret Thatcher would meet with fierce resistance if the wishes of Trinity's senior fellows were overridden and a person politically acceptable to No 10 was foisted upon them.

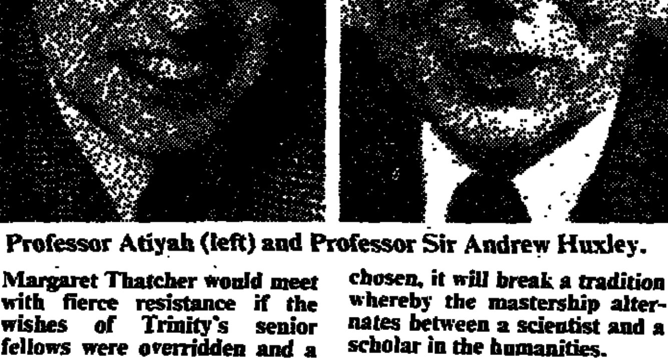
Mr Catford is due to meet the senior fellows again early next term. The announcement of a new master is expected in late May or early June.

He will succeed Sir Alan Hodgkin, who won a Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1963, and is retiring in the summer having reached the age of 70. If Sir Andrew or Sir Michael is chosen, it will break a tradition whereby the mastership alternates between a scientist and a scholar in the humanities.

Mr Walter ("Garry") Runciman, the sociologist and much-liked Fellow of Trinity, once considered a possible front-runner, seems to have dropped out of the reckoning. His friends say he is not keen on the job. At 49, he would, if chosen, have a possible 20 years as master which is deemed too long by the college's senior figures.

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Professor Atiyah (left) and Professor Sir Andrew Huxley.

Breakaway BR union fails to win recognition

A group of railwaymen lost their fight for official recognition of their breakaway union in a local negotiating committee yesterday.

An industrial tribunal at Ashford, Kent, ruled that the men, members of the Federation of Professional Railway Staff, were not entitled to stand for election or to nominate candidates for their negotiating body at St Leonards, Sussex.

The Federation, was formed when the men refused to stop work during the 1982 rail dispute.

Mr Geoffrey Butler, vice-chairman of the federation, said that his members were being treated as second-class citizens because they are not being allowed to use the machinery of negotiation".

Sizewell reprimand for CEGB and inspectors

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The Nuclear Installations Inspectorate, the government organization responsible for the safety of nuclear power stations, and the Central Electricity Generating Board were reprimanded sharply yesterday for their failure to collaborate properly.

The rebuke came in a rare display of impatience by Sir Frank Layfield QC, the inspector at the public inquiry into plans to build a power station with a pressurized water reactor at Sizewell in Suffolk.

Sir Frank made it clear that he believed that the two organizations were adding considerable difficulties to the hearing which has lasted six months longer than estimated

He was particularly censorious about the way the organizations sought to blame each other for the absence of information, which had been promised months ago and was vital to discussion of nuclear power station safety.

Sir Frank said that little progress had been made on those matters since the inquiry started; some of them should have been resolved in 1981 when the timetable for the public hearing was set.

The dispute concerns 40 outstanding safety aspects on which the board has to satisfy the inspectors. The two organizations have yet to agree even how to present some of them so that a safety assessment can be made.

Lime test on Welsh lake in fight against acid rain

By Tim Jones

Four men in a boat will tip tow tons of lime into a remote Welsh mountain lake next week as part of an effort to combat acid rain which is threatening tourism and lucrative fishing revenues.

Tow lakes in the Cumbrian Mountains which once supported wild brown trout have become sterile and many more are at risk. Some of the best known salmon rivers in Wales have been affected.

The experiment is part of a £100,000 Welsh Water Authority research programme into the problem.

Most of the acid rain comes from the heavy industry in the Midlands, which relies on Welsh reservoirs for drinking water.

There is, however, no danger as yet to consumers because their water is treated after it has left the reservoirs.

The threat to fish is serious for English angling clubs which bring thousands of pounds in revenue every year.

The lime will be tipped into Llyn Pendam near Aberystwyth on Wednesday and the authority hopes that the action of the boat's propellers will dilute it in the water.

Dr Alan Gee, a fisheries scientist, said: "If adding two tons of lime to a lake we know holds 26 million gallons of water proves successful we will be able to calculate how much is needed to treat larger lakes."

He added: "Should the experiment be successful it will hold out hope for lakes like Llyn HIr and Llyn Berwyn which have already lost their fish populations."

Police action defended over Davey death

At the inquest into the death of James Davey, a policeman yesterday defended the actions of a colleague who gripped Mr Davies around the neck in a police station cell block.

Minutes after the officer released his grip Mr Davey was found to have stopped breathing and turned blue. He was placed on a life-support machine and pronounced dead 11 days later after doctors decided to switch off the machine.

Police Constable Roger Whichello told an inquest jury at Coventry that Mr Davey turned on acting Sergeant Ian Speed in the cell block corridor at Little Park police station, Coventry, and appeared to make an attempt to attack the sergeant with his head.

PC Whichello said both men fell to the floor and while Sergaent Speed kept his grip around Mr Davey's neck, he and other officers secured Mr Davey's wrists with two pairs of handcuffs. His legs were bound with a belt and rope.

Mr Michael Mansfield, representing Mr Davey's family, asked PC Whichello: "Was there nothing either you or Mr Speed can think that could have caused what happened?"

PC Whichello replied: "I cannot think of anything bu I don't regard myself as qualified."

Mr Mansfield said: "So far nobody is accepting that they did anthing that could have caused the constriction that prevented oxygen reaching the brain."

Mr Davey was due to be transfered to London for questioning in a murder inquiry. The inquest continues on Monday.

Sale room

Hogarth portrait fetches record £280,800

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A Hogarth portrait of a distinguished mathematician, William Jones, set a new auction price record for the artist at £280,280 (unpublished estimate £250,000) at Christie's yesterday, selling to Baskett and Day, the London dealers.

The bewigged Jones is seated in a chair wearing a ginger suit, a subject of limited interest from any other brush. But this is a wonderful bit of painting, with free brushstrokes conjuring up a real person. It dates from the 1740s and was sent for sale by Lord Parker in whose family it has remained.

Jones was mathematical tutor to Thomas Parker, first Earl of Macclesfield and his son, lived with them and bequeathed his unfinished work on Newtonian philosophy to the latter.

The sale of British paintings also set a new action price record for Sir Joshua Reynolds when a half-length portrait of Lady North sold for £140,000 (estimate £50,000 - £80,000). Lady North is very pretty, wears a fine embroidered dress and has a posy of flowers in her bosom; the sheer prettiness of the painting probably explains the difference between estimate and outturn.

The sale contained two fine Constable landscapes that sold much in line with expectations. The larger painting depicted "East Bergholt Church" caught in a ray of sunshine and framed by a tunnel of trees. It sold for £102,600 (estimate £80,000-£120,000) to the Durban City Art Gallery of South Africa. The Rector of Bergholt was the grandfather of Constable' wife and opposed the marriage; this painting is thought to date from the year after their eventual wedding in 1816.

There was strong bidding thoughout the sale, notably for the sporting pictures, and the sale totalled £1,384,884, with 12 per cent unsold.

At Sotheby's prices for fine English furniture seemed to have taken a sharp upward twist since to last important sale in November. London dealers were stocking up in competitive fashion. Simon Redburn paid £33,000 (estimate £15,000-£25,000) for a Queen Anne black japanned bureau-cabinet, the top price of the sale. Etna Antiques spent £31,900 (estimate £10,000-£15,000) on a Chinese padouk-wood bureau-cabinet with attractive mirror paintings in the doors.

In New York on Thursday, Sotheby's secured the highest auction prices on record for two types of Chinese snuffbottles: for an ivory bottle at $33,000 (estimate $28,000-$35,000) or £22,297 – it is an imperial Qianlong bottle – and for a glass overlay at $11,550 (estimate $7,000-$9,000) or £7,804.

Stowaways held

Ten stowaways were found on the Cape Gata, a general cargo vessel from Lagos, Nigeria, which berthed at the Royal Seaforth terminal, Liverpool yesterday.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 60; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 170; Cyprus 550 mils; Denmark Dkr 8.[illegible]; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.40; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 38; Madeira Esc 125; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 8.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $6.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 100

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Lawyers protest over 'dangerously low' pay for legal aid work

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Law Society and the Bar have protested to the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, over what they regard as dangerously low pay just agreed for solicitors and barristers doing criminal legal aid work.

The pay rates will be increased next month by little more than 4 per cent. The profession maintains present rates do not meet the statutory requirement for "fair and reasonable" remuneration.

Some solicitors' firms which concentrate almost entirely on legal aid work are operating on overdrafts, believed to be £50,000 to £100,000, and are in danger of closure.

Mr David Edwards, the Law Society's legal aid secretary, said the society was concerned that firms were working under such financial strain when doing work involving stress.

The gap between the earnings of barristers practising criminal law and those in privately funded work is now so wide that Sir Arthur Power, QC, secretary of the Bar senate, predicted a "second-class service" for legally aided clients.

He said barristers doing private work could earn twice as much as those in criminal legal aid.

"If one pays minimum rates then you are not going to get the best people doing the work", he said. "The whole ethos of legal aid as originally conceived, namely that the poor man could get the same sort of service as a rich man, is in danger."

The Bar says it discovered in a survey last December "the very poor level of remuneration of criminal practitioners and how far juniors of the seniority of more than nine years' call have lagged behind inflation between 1976-77 and 1981-82".

Inflation during that time was 81 per cent, while the increase in fees for such barristers was 69 per cent and for juniors (non-QCs) called to the Bar for more than 16 years only 40 per cent.

Under the new scales solicitors will get an hourly preparation rate in magistrates' courts cases of £26 (up £1), £32 (up £2) for advocacy, and £17 (up 50p) fro travelling and waiting time.

In crown courts the new preparation rate is £26 and travelling and waiting time £17.

Barristers' brief fees for jury trials are up £20 to £350, and for guilty pleas by £5 to £120. Refresher fees remain at £85.

Basic crown court fees for QCs are up £200 to £3,500.

Both branches in the profession want a fundamental pay review. Mr Edwards said the Law Society was considering the possibility of commissioning a survey of criminal legal aid firms.

Right to challenge civil bills proposed

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Lord Chancellor is proposing to give legally-aided litigants the right to challenge civil legal aid bills after complaints from clients who shoulder a percentage of the costs.

At present the taxation, or assessment, of legal aid bills is a matter for the solicitor and taxing authority, although it is estimated that one in five people on legal aid in civil cases contribute towards the cost.

The Lord Chancellor's Department has issued a consultation paper, on which comments are invited by April 30, proposing a right of challenge for these clients. The solicitor would have to inform a client of his right and give an opportunity to make observations, which could then be available to the taxing officer.

If challenged, the solicitor would consider whether to revise a bill. If agreement was reached, the bill would be submitted in the normal way; if not, it would be submitted with the client's comments to be taken into account when the taxing officer reached a decision.

The department has also questioned whether the right of challenge should be extended to everyone on civil legal aid.

Mr David Edwards, secretary of legal aid at the Law Society, said: "We take the view that when people are going to pay themselves they have some right to comment as a matter of natural justice".





Shades of war: The last moments of Lieutenant-Colonel H. Jones VC are captured in a painting (above) by Terence Cuneo commissioned by the officers' mess at the Army School of Infantry, Warminster, Wiltshire, where Colonel "H" had been an instructor. It was unveiled yesterday at the mess by his widow, Mrs Sara Jones, shown right, with Colour Sergeant Barry Norman, who is portrayed in the painting giving covering fire to Colonel "H". The colonel, commanding officer of the 2nd Parachute Regiment, died in an assault on an Argentine gun position at Goose Green during the Falklands campaign. Sergeant Norman helped the artist with details of the incident. (Photographs: Bill Warhurst).

Powers of school governors 'suppressed'

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

School governors are prevented from keeping a check on schools by headteachers and council representatives, who circumscribe their activities, according to the findings of a three-year project by Brunel University.

The research, to be published this autumn, was commissioned by the Department of Education and Science and involved three academics, led by Professor Maurice Kogan, attending more than 100 meetings and conducting more than 360 interviews. Eight governing bodies in four South-east authorities were examined.

Although some governors were drawn into the work of a school, governing bodies were not an effective method for parents and others to exchange information and ideas with teachers, the survey found.

One headteacher described the body as "one more pressure from the open society" but tried to make governors "feel included in the life of the school" by providing information and inviting them to functions.

For some headteachers, governors were a necessary evil, a group to whom it was difficult to be accountable, but who could perhaps be taught what was important. On the whole, the professionals, the teachers, decided what subjects the governors discussed.

The lay governors on one body, for example, could discuss educational visits by pupils but not policy on mixed ability teaching.

The Education Act 1980, the Taylor report on school governors and the Auld report on William Tyndale School all implied that governing bodies should be accountable for the school's work, the researchers say.

"Such a body would need authority to mediate between the decision making of teachers, which should in our view not be weakened, and the needs of parents and other client and community groups, which should certainly become a stronger input into the policy-making and work of the school.

"Our somewhat doleful conclusion, on our limited range of case studies, was that this concept did not appear to be getting through."

The authors recommend that national guidelines on school governors' powers be issued.

Lord Pitt, GP, to be president of BMA

By Pat Healy

Lord Pitt of Hampstead, the Labour peer, will be next year's president of the British Medical Association. He will be the first practising family doctor to hold the post for as long as anyone at the BMA can remember.

Lord Pitt, aged 70, was born in the West Indies but for more than 30 years he has run a single-handed practice near Euston station, London.

He will become president just as the BMA's policy limiting the number of overseas doctors allowed to practice in Britain will be starting to bite.

The BMA does not expect to clash with Lord Pitt over this, although he has been committed to fighting racial discrimination for many years.

The BMA expects to gain prestige from Lord Pitt's presidency and hopes he will represent it in the House of Lords and in the media.

Lord Pitt twice stood for Parliament but then became a member of the Greater London Council. He was deputy chairman in 1969-70 and chairman in 1974-75, and then was given a life peerage by the Prime Minister, Mr Harold Wilson (now Lord Wilson of Rievaulx).



Lord Pitt: Interests in race relations.

Pringle murder attempt charge

Thomas Quigley, a Belfast man accused of conspiring to cause explosions in the London area, faced nine further charges when he appeared before Lambeth magistrates on Thursday.

They included three charges of murder and one of attempting to murder Lieutenant General Sir Steuart Pringle, Commandant General of the Royal Marines, in 1981.

Praise for British TV sets

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

British-made colour television sets are now among the most reliable in the world, a report published yesterday by the National Economic Development Office says.

New techniques have meant that the number of faults found on the production line has been reduced to one in every hundred sets.

The report says that in the early days colour sets were expensive marvels with an eager but technically uncritical audience. It was accepted that they occasionally broke down.

A survey by the consumer magazine *Which?* in 1975-76 found that fewer than half the sets made in Britain or continental Europe survived their first year without at least one repair, compared with 12 per cent of Japanese sets.

The report says: "In the early 1970s attitudes changed. This increasingly demanding attitude among consumers was reinforced by the rapid growth of imports of small colour television sets from Japan. Japanese sets quickly acquired a reputation for reliability and managed to sell for a premium price."

The report is available from NEDO Books, Millbank Tower, London SW1 4QX, price £1.00.

Brochure error costs tour firm £4,200

Holidaymakers to the Greek island of Kos found that the "lovely beach" described in a company's brochure was shingle, magistrates in Birmingham were told yesterday. In fact, the photograph in the brochure showed a beach outside another hotel three and a half miles away, the court heard.

Horizon Holidays, the tour operator, pleaded guilty to nine offences under the Trade Descriptions Act concerning holidays advertised in its 1982 brochure. The company asked for three similar offences concerning holidays in 1983 at the same hotel to be considered.

It was fined £4,200 and ordered to pay £100 costs.

Mr Giles Harrison-Hall, for the prosecution, said the offences came to light after complaints from the public. They related to facilities available at the Norida Beach Hotel.

"One photograph which has the caption 'lovely beach alongside the marine bar' is not, in fact a photograph of the beach alongside the hotel. It is a beach three and a half miles away," Mr Harrison-hall said.

Mr Nigel Cadbury, for the company, said: "The brochure contains millions of statements and representations, and it is quite likely that the odd mistake will be made". The brochure had been published in August, 1981, but the company noticed the mistake only in May, 1982.

A spokesman for Horizon said afterwards: We are very shocked and very disappointed by the size of the fine. We are considering an appeal."

Calvi bank cash order

Bank accounts suspected of holding some of the $142m missing from the Peruvian operations of the Banco Ambrosiano can be examined by Touche Ross, the accountants and liquidators of the offshoot, the Dublin High Court ruled yesterday.

At least two of the accounts were said to be controlled by Signorina Antonia Cori, mistress of Bruno Tassan Din, a high-ranking member of the outlawed Italian masonic cult, P2.

Tassan Din, described as mentally disturbed and under guard in a Milan hospital, faces trial in Italy accused of fraud and illegally exporting currency.

He was a close associate of Ambrosiano's chairman, Mr Roberto Calvi, who was found hanged at Blackfriars Bridge, London, in 1982.

The accounts controlled by Signorina Cori are with the merchant banker, Ansbacher, of Dublin.

Warner joins cable channel

By Our Arts Correspondent

Warner Brothers and the United States cable television company Showtime are the latest media groups to join Premiere, Thorn-EMI's cable television film channel in Britain.

The channel, which is due to unveil its film schedules next month, merged recently with Television Entertainment Group, which includes Goldcrest Films and Television and the other main US cable network, Home Box Office. Thorn-EMI retains a majority stake in the latest deal.

Premiere is due to be available to cable systems in Britain and Ireland from June 1, and will be marketed with a music channel and a children's service.

Global phone-in

The BBC's World Service and Radio 4 will run four joint phone-in programmes, starting on May 6, with listeners interviewing Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, King Husain of Jordan, Dr Garret FitzGerald, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, and Mr Sonny Ramphal, the Commonwealth Secretary General.

New doubt on breath test machines

By John Witherow

The Home Office is considering reintroducing blood and urine tests in all drink-drive cases after criticism of the accuracy of electronic breath-testing machines.

The doubts were reinforced yesterday when the Association of Police Surgeons published critical findings on the Intoximeter and argues that every driver should have the statutory right to a blood or urine test.

The Police surgeons, who collected results from 30 police stations over a three-month period, found that one in every five drivers who failed the electronic test was below the legal limit when a blood sample was analysed.

Under legislation which came into effect on May 6 last year, a driver can ask for a blood or urine test only if there is between 40 and 50 micrograms of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath. Anyone above that level will automatically be prosecuted.

Dr David Dunbart, spokesman for the association, said: "We are concerned about wrongful conviction and there is sufficient doubt to justify a change in the law.

"In one case a driver whose reading was 49 micrograms per 100 millilitres was found to be within the legal limit when a blood sample was analysed."

Out of 518 samples, there were 318 breath machine failures. Dr Dunbar said that while this statistic had no legal implication, as a blood or urine test is carried out anyway when the equipment fails, it did reflect an overall inaccuracy of the machines.

Since the machine came into use last year there have been more than 60,000 positive tests, most of which led to conviction. That was a 37 per cent increase over a similar period when blood and urine tests were compulsory.

The Home Office said its own tests had found the machine to be accurate, but given the association's research it would decide within "days or weeks" whether to have a trial period when all drink-drive cases would get blood or urine tests.

Council will test public's reaction to 'quiet' lorry

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

A "quiet" lorry making no more noise than a family car is to be tested in London and if public response is favourable, the Greater London Council will consider exempting it from a proposed night and weekend ban on heavy lorries.

The quiet lorry, developed by the Government's Transport and Road Research Laboratory in the 1970s is based on a Foden body and uses a Rolls-Royce engine. Noise emissions have been cut from 86-88 decibels to 80-81 by muffling the engine and modifying the exhaust and inlet systems.

However, until the EEC introduces its proposed new noise regulations neither operators nor manufacturers are interested in paying up to 10 per cent extra to reduce noise.

The GLC's proposed ban gives Britain the opportunity to lead Europe in an area of great interest to environmentalists

● Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for Transport, has hinted that he may stop the GLC's lorry ban.

He said that the council had failed to make a case for the ban which could make matters worse for Londoners and the surrounding counties. He added that if the GLC persisted with the proposal, a public inquiry would have to be held.





Mr Francome at his home in Lambourn and his wife Miriam in London for yesterday's hearing.

Source of Francome tapes stays secret

The *Daily Mirror* won its appeal yesterday to keep secret the name of the person who "bugged" telephone conversations involving John Francome, the jockey. But the Court of Appeal ordered that the newspaper should not to publish the contents of the unlawfully taped conversations – which the paper alleges contain evidence of Mr Francome breaking the rules of racing – without permission from the minister in charge of telecommunications.

Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, said the newspaper was free to publish statements about Mr Francome which, on the face of it, would be defamatory, so long as it did not reveal the contents of the tapes. The newspaper could use the tapes as evidence in support of a defence of justification in any resulting libel action.

The *Daily Mirror* had appealed against High Court orders won by Mr Francome banning it from making use of the tapes for any article, and ordering it to name the person who bugged the telephones at Mr Francome's Berkshire home.

Mr Francome is suing the *Daily Mirror*, its editor Mr Mike Molloy, and two reporters, claiming damages for breach of confidence and trespass. Sir John said any question of revealing the source of the tapes would have to wait until after the trial.

The court refused the *Daily Mirror* leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Law report, page 29

Neglectful surgeon admonished

By Robin Young

A consultant surgeon was admonished yesterday by the professional conduct committee of the General Medical Council after it was found that he had been neglectful in the treatment of a student who died after falling from a fourth-floor window after a college party.

The committee had heard it suggested that Mr John Kingsmill Moore was prejudiced against Miss Camille Jackson, aged 20, a stockbroker's daughter and a student at Royal Holloway College, Egham, Surrey, because he thought she jumped from the window under the influence of LSD. He denied this.

Miss Jackson was admitted to the intensive care unit of the Royal Sussex County Hospital within 12 hours of being discharged by Mr Kingsmill Moore from Ashford Hospital. She developed blood poisoning and died 10 days later.

The president of the Council, Sir John Walton, told Mr Kingsmill Moore that the committee found that the clinical management of the case had fallen "lamentably below the standard which the public had the right to expect".

Assault charge

Albert Moffat, aged 21, was remanded in custody for a week at Marylebone magistrates' court, London, yesterday, charged with assaulting the mass murderer Denis Nilsen, causing grievous bodily harm, in Wormwood Scrubs prison last December.

Fire at school

A classroom block at Purbrook Junior School, in Waterlooville, Hampshire, was burnt down by a fire on Thursday night which caused damage estimated at £75,000. At Westlands Secondary School in Sittingbourne, Kent, intruders stole videos and broke furniture.

Cat deaths alert

Veterinary surgeons are warning people to keep pets out of rooms immediately after dieldrin treatment for woodworm, because of a spate of cat deaths. Cats are particularly susceptible to the pesticide and can die painfully.

Baby warning

Boots has withdrawn from sale and recalled its own brand blue nylon baby frame carriers, which fit on to an adult's back, because the stitching may be faulty.

Roman wreck revealed

The wreck of a 70ft long Roman cargo vessel, believed to date from about AD200, has been discovered at the mouth of St Peter Port harbour, Guernsey.

Mr Richard Keen, a diver, found the remains 15 months ago, but kept them secret until he obtained a seabed lease from the Crown to protect the wreck from interference.

The powerful wash from the propellors of Sealink's cross channel ferries has eroded the wreck's covering, leaving pottery, pans and the hull, still in good condition, exposed.

It is hoped that Mrs Margaret Rule, who led the recovery of the Tudor wreck Mary Rose, will head the team.

Mr Keen has covered the site to prevent further damage by ferries. A survey will be carried out in the spring.

Reagan wins Republican support to trim record defence budget

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan has reached agreement with Republican Congressional leaders to reduce his request for defence spending over the next three years by $57bn (£39bn). But it may not be enough to satisfy the Democrats.

The president agreed to trim his request for a record $93.1bn over the three-year period, which ends in October, 1987, in an attempt to break the deadlock on Congressional approval of the 1985 budget.

But Democratic criticism of President Reagan on Capitol Hill has not tempered. Mr Thomas "Tip" O'Neill, Speaker of the House of Representatives, said the proposed reduction in military spending marked "a small concession but a big confession". He predicted further military spending cuts before the 1985 budget could be approved by Congress.

The President said the new military spending proposals "will slow our defence build-up somewhat" but would not reduce national security to a point of unacceptable risk.

Administration officials said that even with the proposed reduced funding levels, President Reagan intended to continue his effort to modernize the nations' strategic forces. That would mean that construction of the MX missile, the Trident submarine, the B-1 bomber and other important weapons systems would be largely unaffected.

In January, President Reagan asked for $305bn in Pentagon spending authority in 1985. That has been reduced to $291bn under the new proposals. The cuts are regarded by the White House as the principal concession by the President in the negotiations that began after he called for $100bn bipartisan "down payment" on the budget deficit.

A White House official said a particularly important aspect of the accord was that President Reagan was agreeing to the new Pentagon spending sums for all three years. If the President were reelected he would not seek to restore spending to the levels of his original request, he added.

US defence spending since 1980 (figures based on current dollars):

Fiscal year	$m
1980:	142,621
1981:	178,365
1982:	213,751
1983:	239,474
1984:	285,151
1985:	305,000

Negotiations with Republican Congressional leaders have been arduous. There were disputes both about the amount and the direction of spending. The Administration pushed for a package with most of the cuts in readiness, operations and maintenance, while several senators pressed for significant cuts in weapons procurement.

A senior administration official said the agreement will lead to some cutbacks or "spreading out" of military procurement over the next three years but not as much as some senators had wanted. President Reagan insisted throughout the negotiations that defence cuts should not be made in broad percentages or total dollars but in specific programmes.

The White House has not said which specific defence projects might have to give way under the new spending proposals. The details are likely to be the subject of further Congressional negotiations.

Democrats are divided on their response to the new defence figures. While Mr O'Neill insisted that the cuts were not enough, Senator Pete Domenici, chairman of the Senate budget committee, said that further percentage cuts in military spending authority would not produce significant additional savings in outlays. He thought the eventual military budget would end up similar to the one now proposed.

According to the White House, the new proposals represent inflation-adjusted increases in current military spending of 5.1 per cent in 1985, 5 per cent in 1986 and 4.9 per cent in 1987. Some Democratic leaders, however, have raised doubts about the figures, saying the true increases are much higher.



Police tackle: A man being pinned to the ground in an arrest during the riot.

Blacks riot after Miami verdict

Miami (AP) – Black youths hurled stones, looted shops and started fires, and heavily armed police responded with tear gas, after an all-white jury acquitted an Hispanic policeman in the shooting of a black man, The disturbances were over by dawn yesterday.

More than 240 people were arrested, sniper shots were reported, and five policemen were hurt after the acquittal on manslaughter charged of Officer Luis Alvarez on Thursday night. The mayor of Miami, Mr Maurice Ferre, said police would do "whatever is necessary" to maintain order.

Police had cordoned off troubled areas, but by peak hour blockades were taken down and highways and schools were open. Police advised motorists to stay out

Mr Stanley Marcus, a federal attorney, said a separate federal civil rights investigation against Mr Alvarez would continue. The investigation was suspended while the state prosecuted him.

Earlier, police fired tear gas into a crowd of about a hundred blacks who came out of a housing project in the predominantly black Liberty City section and threw stones at officers.

As police formed a line and marched down the street to disperse the crowd, the youths fled into flats and shouted: "We want justice. We want justice". Rubbish bins smoldered in the streets, and roving groups of young blacks taunted police.

Poll predicts heavy Salvador voting prompted by fear

From John Carlin, San Salvador

A poll conducted in El Salvador to test public opinion before the presidential election next weekend revealed an extraordinary sceptism, tempered by fear, on the part of voters.

The poll indicated that there would be a massive voter turn out but, far from offering grounds for legitimizing El Salvador's burgeoning democratic process, 46.2 per cent of those interviewed said they would vote only because they had to. Only 3.9 per cent said they would vote because they had any commitment to a particular party or persidential candidate.

In reply to a question about who would they vote for if the election took place today, the percentage of those who did not know or would not answer topped 80 per cent.

Based on the views of the few who did anwer positively, the poll concludes that Señor José Napoleon Duarte the Christian Democrats (PDC) cnadidate, has a clear lead over his rivals: 9.6 per cent said they would vote for the PDC; 4.4 per cent for Major Roberto D'Aubuisson's extreme right Republican Nationalist Alliance Party; 3.7 per cent for the party of the Establishment right, the National Conciliation Party.

The poll – politically the least biased to emerge so far – was conducted by El Salvador's Catholic University. It was based on a poll sample of 1,021 form what an accompaying analitical document described as "representative sectors of the population", from four provinces.

In reply to the question "Do you think the elections will be clean ?" 35.4 per cent of those polled said "yes", but 46.5 per cent were "doubtful" and 10.1 per cent "sceptical".

In view of the terror and intimidation which has characterized the campaign the analysis notes that the poll demonstrated the "justified fear of the population to define itself politically or offer opinions"

One woman asked the interviewer if he belonged to a "death squad".

Few people, according to the poll, thought the election would bring improvements or resolve the four-year-old civil war.

Asked how they thought the war could best be ended, 36.5 per cent said they had no idea. 11.4 per cent thought a "dialogue" could provide the answer, while only 1.3 per cent believed that "a military solution" provided a feasible alternative. Just over 3 per cent of those polled pinned their hopes on "divine intervention".

A left-wing terrorist organization has claimed responsibility for the murder on Wednesday evening of Senor Hector Tulio Flores, a member of El Salvador's Constituent Assembly, who belonged to the National Conciliation Party.

The "Clara Elizabeth Ramirez Front" said in a communique that the murder was a response to the imminent "electoral farce", the term used by the left to describe the election.

Nato ready for deal on troop levels

From Richard Bassett
Vienna

Talks on Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions resumed in Vienna yesterday, with a suggestion by the West that it was prepared to show flexibility on the number of Warsaw Pact troops stationed in central Europe. This has been the main stumbling block in the talks' 10-year history.

But, despite speculation in recent weeks, there was no new Western proposal at the 359th plenary session of the talks.

At a press conference afterwards, the Western spokesman, Mr Thomas Hammond, said it would be prepared to set aside, at least temporarily, its belief that the Warsaw Pact has 180,000 more troops in central Europe than the Soviet Union claims, in order to concentrate on other issues, such as verification.

Mr Hammond said that, although committed to concrete results, the West could not overlook in the long term the need for agreement on the size of the forces to be reduced in central Europe.

The Eastern spokesman, Mr Kristof Stronczynski, joked with Western journalists, in sharp contrast to the last press conference when the talks broke up in December and the East refused to answer questions. Although he described the West's latest statement as disappointing and accused it of clinging to an unrealistic position.

Glenn campaign goes broke

Astronaut failed to take off

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

ELECTION 84

Saying that his campaign was broke, Senator John Glenn yesterday aborted his presidential mission after failing to win a single primary or caucus. However, he said would continue his "campaign for a better America" by seeking reelection to the Senate in 1986 and hinted that he might consider the Vice-Presidency "if it was truly important to the nation and the party".

He declined to endorse any of the three candidates remaining in the race – Mr Walter Mondale, Senator Gary Hart and the Rev Jesse Jackson – even though many of his supporters have already jumped on to the Hart bandwagon.

The Ohio senator had focused his campaign on what he described as the "sensible centre" – those "moderate" Democrats who, he maintained, were seeking an alternative to Mr Mondale's liberalism and President Reagan's conservativism.

He felt none of the three remaining candidates offered a "moderate" alternative to Mr Reagan, but said he would support whichever of them won the party's presidential nomination.

The 62-year-old former astronaut made his exit with dignity and good humour, even though members of his family and his staff were moist-eyed as he took his final bow.

Thanking the press for their coverage of his 16-month campaign, he joked: "You could say I am deeply indebted to you all. Unfortunately, that is not a unique distinction, since at this point you know I am indebted to almost everybody."

It was shortage of money rather than lack of determination which finally brought Senator Glenn's faltering campaign to a halt. He had raised and spent more than £7m (£4.6m) since his launch last year and had only managed to keep his campaign going during the past few weeks thanks to a $2.5m line of credit from a group of Ohio banks. That money has also been used up.

The senator now faces the problem of repaying that loan, which will mean having to raise more campaign funds, even though his campaign is now officially ended. Although Senator Glenn is a millionaire several times over, election rules prevent him from using his own money to pay off his debt.

Mr Glenn: Failed to win one primary or caucus.

Until the selection process actually got under way last month, Senator Glenn was considered the candidate with the best chance of beating Mr Mondale for the nomination. For much of last year, polls showed the two on level pegging and revealed that voters felt he had a better chance of defeating Mr Reagan than the former vice-president.

Paradoxically, the decline in his political fortunes began with the release of *The Right Stuff*, a film glorifying him and the other original astronauts. His staff hoped it would enhance his heroic image. But the film has turned out to be almost as big a flop as the Glenn campaign.

Senator Glenn conceded yesterday that his reputation as the first American to orbit the Earth had been as much hindrance as help. Many voters continued to regard him as an astronaut rather than a future president.

His attempt to appeal to party moderates also backfired. Voters who take part in caucuses and primaries tend to be activists, a majority of whom belong to the liberal wing of the party.

For much of the campaign Senator Glenn's organization had been a shambles.

Jaruzelski peace offer to Church

From Our Correspondent, Warsaw

General Jaruzelski, the Polish party leader, in his keynote speech to delgates attending a major national party conference, said there was no need for a conflict between Church and State.

In his nationally televised speech at the opening of the three-day conference, the Polish ruler made no direct reference to the recent "war of the crosses" in which students, priests and bishops resisted government efforts to remove crucifixes from classrooms in state schools. But the Party leader and Prime Minister did suggest that the Church and the Communist regime could work out a means for peaceful coexistence.

"The citizens of Poland do not have to choose between loyalty to the state and their attachment to the Church," said General Jaruzelski, who admitted that there is "an obvious contradiction between our materialistic philosophy and systems of religious faith."

The Polish Prime Minister blamed friction in State-Church relations on unnamed "foreign centres" who "encourage the worst possible relations and always seek sensations." He also attacked the political opposition for attempting to "turn churches into rally and show halls and abuse church politics for their own purposes."

In the rest of his two-hour speech General Jaruzelski covered familiar ground, justifying his decision to impose martial law and outlaw Solidarity as necessary measures to avoid a catastrophe. He added that the Communist Party was more united and had come a long way towards restoring its position but admitted that "the way ahead is not easy."

The National Conference of Delegates is the first main national party meeting since the July 1981 Extraordinary Party Congress where the main item on the agenda was the growing challenge posed by Solidarity. Now party officials express concern about the continued apathy and inertia of Polish society after martial law.

Bulgarian back in jail

From John Earle, Rome

Mr Serghei Antonov, the Bulgarian airline official accused of being involved in the attempt on the life of the Pope, was yesterday taken back to jail in a police ambulance from the Rome flat where he had lived under house arrest since December.

Shortly before, Mr Antonov, who was reported to have suffered a relapse on hearing he had to return to jail, was visited by a doctor from the Bulgarian Embassy.

Hongkong council claims role in colony's future

Peking (AFP) – Sino-British negotiations in the future of Hongkong resumed here yesterday, two days after local legislators broke their silence to demand a say in their future.

The negotiators met for about three hours, their tenth round of two-day talks on Hongkong since July.

The delegation chief, Sir Richard Evans, the British Ambassador in Peking, Zhou Nan, China's assistant foreign minister, arrived smiling at the government guest house. But they made no comment on the resolution adopted on Wednesday by Hongkong's appointed legislative council, which claimed the right to debate any proposals on the territory's future before a final accord was struck.

China, which sees the talks as strictly a bilateral affair with Britain, has made no official response. But observers said the council move might weigh on the latest round of talks.

The pro-Peking press in Hongkong critized the council move as a "stage-managed" manoeuver by the British authorities which could jeopardize the delicate discussions

A senior Hongkong official denied charges that the debate was a British move to put pressure on China.



Mr Turner: Jobs for Canadians his priority.

Turner sets sights on Trudeau job

From John Best
Ottawa

To nobody's surprise, Mr John Turner yesterday officially became a candidate for the leadership of Canada's Liberal Party and the job of Prime Minister.

Mr Turner, aged 54, a former federal Cabinet minister who for the past eight years has been a partner in a Toronto law firm, immediately became the front runner in the race to succeed Mr Pierre Trudeau.

Mr Trudeau is resigning after 15 years in office, but will stay on until a successor is chosen at a convention in mid-June.

Mr Turner's decision to run had been regarded as a foregone conclusion, and his official announcement in many ways resembled a coronation more than another entry in the leadership contest.

Dozens of supporters applauded as Mr Turner, tanned from a recent Caribbean holiday, made his way into a packed press conference at an Ottawa hotel. People who could not crowd into the room watched proceedings on closed-circuit television in an ante-room.

In the previous 24 hours four Cabinet ministers had declared their support for Mr Turner and at least five others were expected to follow suit.

Mr Turner, good looking and exceptionally fit, has retained an astonishing hold on the loyalties and affections of many Liberals despite his eight-year absence from federal politics.

None of the other three declared candidates – all Cabinet ministers – has received open support from other Cabinet members. The three are Mr Donald Johnston, Minister for Economic Development; Mr John Roberts, Minister of Employment; and Mr Mark MacGuigan, Minister of Justice.

Mr Turner said his highest priority as prime minister would be "finding worthwhile jobs for Canadians". The country has an unemployment rate above 11 per cent.

Three killed in raid on Omdurman

Khartum (AFP) – Three people were killed and several injured when an unidentified aircraft bombed Khartum's twin city of Omdurman early yesterday, the Sudan news agency Suna reported.

The Sudanese Army declared a nationwide stte of alert after the plan dropped five bombs on the town, damaging a Sudanese radio building, two houses and two cars.

Extremist gang captured

Avignon (AFP) – French police have arrested the alleged leader of the extreme left-wing group Action Directe, two days after he narrowly escaped arrest in Brussels.

They held Regis Schleicher, aged 26, and about 10 alleged members of the group, and captured a number of weapons, after surrounding a house in the Avignon suburbs.

Police swoop on Camorra

Rome – Police arrested about 100 people throughout Italy on warrants issued by magistrates in Naples investigating the Camorra, the local version of the Mafia.

Many were in the Naples area, but others were picked up in towns as far away as Turin and Genoa.

Dam loan

Zurich (AP) – A consortium of Swiss Banks has agreed to lend Turkey £180m to help finance the construction of the Ataturk hydro-electric project.

Gunman held

Cologne (AP) – Plain clothes police overpowered a gunman who had held a number of hostages in a Cologne bank for nine hours when he tried to make his getaway in a car they provided. No one was hurt.

Election row

Manila (AFP) – The Philippine opposition alliance says it will field 183 candidates for the national assembly elections on May 14 despite a refusal by the election commission to recognize the alliance's national standing.

Moscow trip

Bonn, (AP) – The West German Foreign Minister, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher has accepted an invitation from his Soviet counterpart Mr Andrei Gromyko to visit Moscow in the second half of May.

PARLIAMENT March 16 1984

Video control Bill goes through

The Video Recordings Bill, private Member's measure, designed to curb the sale and distribution of obscene and violent videos, the so-called "video nasties", completed its passage through the Commons when it was given a third reading.

During the report stage an amendment was agreed to which doubled from £10,000 to £20,000 the maximum penalty for those supplying video recordings or possessing recordings for supply which had not been classified by the body responsible for ensuring that recordings were suitable for distribution.

Mr Graham Bright (Luton South, C), the Bill's main sponsor, said the increased fine would go a long way to making sure that the Bill had teeth.

Mr Bright earlier moved a new clause making the Home Secretary's power to designate those who would censor and classify videos subject to parliamentary approval.

He said the Home Secretary had made it clear that he proposed to designate the principal officers of the British Board of Film Censors.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, L) said he was concerned that the new clause would allow the Bill to go through without the House knowing the nature of the body the Home Secretary would later have the power to designate to ban certain videos. The House would only have the chance to discuss the composition of the body at a later stage.

It was important that the censoring body should be regarded as the best and most appropriate one to take such decisions and they might be writing a blank cheque with this new clause. Although the House would have the authority to reject the Home Secretary's proposal, he doubted whether that would happen.

He wondered whether the British Board of Film Censors, even in an amended form, was a suitable body for censoring videos. He wanted reassurance that the censoring body would be representative and accountable to the public. The ultimate responsibilty for censoring cinema films belonged to local authorities, and they should not give more power to the state in relation to videos than in relation to cinema films.

Sir Bernard Braine (Castle Point, C), supporting the new clause, said the Bill's object was to deal effectively with a grave and growing social evil which no civilized or caring society could tolerate.

He wanted to ensure that whatever machinery they provided to check this filthy and pernicious trade and to certify videos as suitable for viewing in the home or elsewhere was made answerable to Parliament and took heed of public opinion.

The British Board of Film Censors' track record did not inspire confidence, but the Government had now promised proper accountability and safeguards.

Mr Timothy Brinton (Gravesham, C), a consultant for the British Videograms Association, welcomed the new clause. He said it was half a loaf and better than none. There might be different standards of censorship for the home and the cinema so the Government should consider designating a different body from the British Board of Film Censors to deal with videos.

Mr Peter Pike (Burnley, Lab), supporting the new clause, said there was no evidence to suggest another body could do the job any better than the British Board of Film Censors.

The new clause was agreed to.

Mr Bright moved formally a further new clause ensuring that the designated authority would produce an annual report on its activities.

Sir Bernard Braine said one of the arguments used against the Bill outside the House was that its motivation might be unimpeachable but it was in effect a form of censorship. It was nothing of the kind.

What was being said was that no child should be exposed to the risk of an assault upon its mind by the horrific, filthy and damaging video material in circulation which 10-year-old and even younger children were seeing.

They were only at the beginning of what would prove to be an exciting video revolution. Handled responsibly it would entertain, brighten people's lives and educate them, but it could have and was having serious adverse effects.

With the advent of cable and satellite television it was necessary to monitor the impact on society.

The requirement that the designated authority presented an annual report which must be laid before both Houses provided an opportunity which did not exist at present for Parliament and public to discuss developments and trends with knowledge and understanding. That must be good.

Mr Matthew Parris (West Derbyshire, (C) said he must warn the House against a somewhat unsavoury note of self-congratulation which was beginning to creep in.

Mr Harry Greenway (Ealing North, C) said a video was the first thing that people bought with redundancy money. In some homes it even took priority over food and furniture.

Lots of parents took no interest in what their children watched. The situation was serious and he was not sure that the House was being strong enough about it. This new clause was the very minimum that it could do.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C) said he hoped the annual report would contain some reference to the prices that were being charged as a result of the extra costs inflicted upon the British Board of Film Censors so that people knew that to buy 18R videos was very expensive.

Sometimes the purse was as good if not a better form of censorship than any other sort of control.

The new clause was agreed to.

Mr Denis Howell (Birmingham, Small Heath, Lab), for the Opposition, moving an amendment to extend the interpretation of video work to a series of still pictures, said that in some parts of the world and certainly in America, the gutter press took masses of pictures of murders, accidents and things of that sort, put them together and associated with them screams, noises, music and offensive commentary.

It seemed to him possible to defeat the Bill's purpose in that way and the amendment was to take care of such a situation.

The amendment was withdrawn.

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Botha and Machel sign non-aggression pact after 10-year hostility

From Michael Hornsby, On the South Africa-Mozambique border

After nearly a decade of hostility, the leaders of South Africa and Mozambique yesterday put aside their swords and took up their pens to sign an historic "non aggression and good neighbourliness" pact at a meeting on the banks of the Komati River.

The ceremony, preceded by the playing of national anthems by military bands, took place before 1,000 guests in an open sided wooden pavilion exactly where the Komati, hitherto mainly famous as a haunt of crocodiles and hippopotami, flows from South Africa into Mozambique between low wooded hills.

There was cheering and ululation as Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, in trilby and lounge suit and President Samora Machel, in full military uniform, shook hands. It was hard to believe that South Africa had twice mounted ground or air attacks on alleged guerrilla bases in Mozambique within the last 10 months.

The essence of the agreement, the result of several months of negotiation, is that Mozambique will prevent the underground African National Congress (ANC) from using its territory for guerrilla attacks against South Africa, while Pretoria will withdraw its covert support for the insurgents of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) though neither the ANC nor MNR is mentioned by name. After the signing, President Machel said the pact had laid "the foundation for a definitive break of the cycle of violence" in Southern Africa. Mr Botha spoke of his "vision of the nations (of the region) cooperating with each other in every field of human endeavour".

The agreement, Mr Botha said, was based on immutable "economic and geographic realities". There was "no question of (its) being a temporary expedient from which one side or the other might desire to derive unilateral advantage".

President Machel referred to "great and even antagonistic" differences "between our political, economic and social concepts" – the closest he came to a direct mention of apartheid – but agreed that "we are indissolubly linked by geography and promixity".

Mr Botha said South Africa had been one of the first countries "to confront colonial occupation and foreign exploitation" and countless numbers of women and children had died in concentration camps while their husbands, fathers and brothers fought against the might of the British Empire.

"We are both African countries, inhabited by African peoples whose past and whose future are firmly entrenched in the southern part of the African continent. We are of Africa".

President Machel agreed that colonialism had bequeathed both countries a "burdensome" legacy.

"We, the Mozambique people, want to develop friendly relations with the South African people. None of us, Mozambicons or South Africans, have another country. We are not foreigners to our continent or our countries".

Although heads of state or government from other black states in the region were invited to attend the ceremony, only Prince Bhekimpi Dlamini, the Prime Minister of Swaziland, accepted. Others were represented by their ambassadors. South Africa had been hoping that President Kaunda and possibly President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania would come.

The absence of black leaders reflects the widespread suspicion that exists in the region about South Africa's motives and suggests that there will be no rush to sign similar agreements

● LUSAKA: The ANC yesterday condemned the treaty as a ploy by Pretoria to halt the struggle for majority rule in the Republic (AFP reports). South Africa was trying to compel its black neighbours "to act as Pretoria's agents in emasculating the ANC".



Historic meeting: President Machel and Mr Botha at yesterday's border summit.

Man shot outside White House

Washington (AP) – Mr David Mahonski, who according to an uncle wanted to see the Presdent and straighten him out", was in fair condition in hospital yesterday after he was shot on a pavement outside the White House.

The US secret service, which is responsible for the President's protection, said Mr Majonski was shot on Thursday night when he refused to drop a saw-off shotgun.

Police said Mr Mahonski, aged 25, of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, had been seen around the White House for several weeks and was already the subject of a background check. He would probably be charged with assault with a deadly weapon and a federal firearms violation for possession of a saw-off shot-gun.

There was no evidence that he was trying to enter the White House, and he had not been listed by the Secret service as a threat to Mr Reagan.

Mr Reagan was in the White House at the time of the shooting and was informed of the incident, according to a White House spokeswoman. The President was never in any danger.

The shooting came several hours after guards arrested another man who allegedly scaled the iron-spiked fence around the White House.

Neutron bomb advocated

French general quits in defence dispute

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Serious disagreement over France's defence strategy, and the effectiveness of its nuclear deterrent in particular, has led to the resignation of one of its youngest and most respected senior officers, General Etienne Copel, deputy chief of staff of the Air Force with responsibility for operations.

In his book *Vaincre la Guerre* (To Conquer War), published this week, General Copel, aged 48, argues that France's nuclear weaponry is not an absolute deterrent against Soviet invasion, and advocates the use of tactical nuclear weapons, in particular the neutron bomb, and of chemical weapons to repel a Soviet attack on the West.

In an interview in *L'Express* magazine yesterday, General Copel insisted that he had no wish to create a scandal. "I simply believe that the doctrines, the methods of instruction, the arms, and tactics of the French armed forces are not adapted to the threat which I believe to be the most dangerous – an attack involving conventional and chemical weapons – rather than nuclear ones."

General Copel Believes that the unquestioned trust in the effectiveness of France's nuclear deterrent as a guarantee of its security was "unrealistic and terribly dangerous." France could not destroy Moscow after a non-nuclear attack by Warsaw Pact countries, even if that was what the French doctrine envisaged, he argues, for to do so would invitably unleash a nuclear holocaust.

A nuclear force was only a useful deterrent against a nuclear attack. To rebuff a conventional or chemical attack, effective conventional forces and adequate chemical weapons were required. At present, however, the Warsaw Pact enjoyed a "frightening superiority" over the West in their capacity for chemical warfare.

In his book, the general pointed out that despite the 1925 Protocol banning the use of chemical weapons, to which the Soviet Union was a signatory, the Russians had built up an estimated 350,000 tons of chemical weapons.

Over the past five years, the French armed forces had been taking measures to defend themselves against a chemical attack, but they still had a long way to go. He believed that the Russians, while reluctant to launch a nuclear attack, might take the risk of a chemical attack in the knowledge that France would not be able to retaliate in kind

General Copel advocates a strategy mid-way between that of the nuclear "Purists", who insist that the threat of an all-out nuclear attack is the only real deterrent, and the pacifists who insist that under no circumstances should the West be the first to launch a nuclear strike. He believes there is a place for limited use of tactical nuclear weapons including the neutron bomb.

Prince's four-nation African journey

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Prince of Wales begins a tour of four African countries on Monday in his capacity as a director of the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC), whose board he joined five years ago.

He will be visiting Tanzania, Zambia and Botswana, for the first time. He attended the independence celebrations of the fourth, Zimbabwe, four years ago, since when much has changed.

He will dine with Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, and have similar meetings with President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania and President Kenneth Kaunda in Zambia. Such occsions will invest the two-week royal progress with an importance beyond its primary objective.

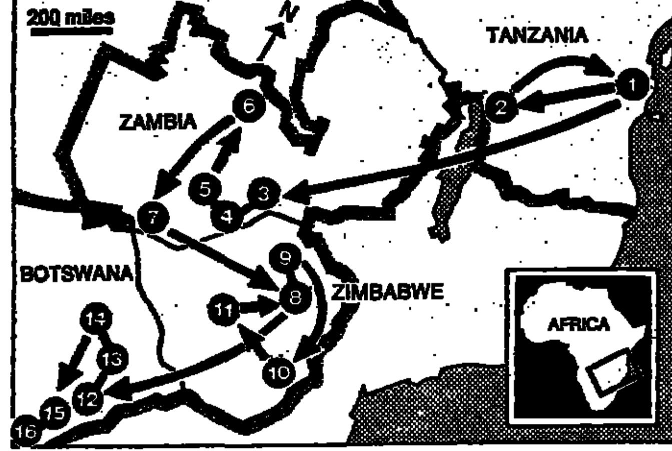
This must be to promote and encourage the work of the CDC, which was founded by the Attlee government in 1948 as a public corporation to help industrial, agricultural and public works projects in the developing world.

It borrows funds from the Treasury and invests cash and management skills in the schemes it undertakes. As much as £800m is now deployed worldwide.

It is involved in 260 projects in more than 40 countries, of which 37 are Commonwealth members. The emphasis is on promoting projects in poorer areas of the Third World.

All this ties in well with the royal family's Commonwealth responsibilities and with the Prince of Wales's own interests in technology and the environment.

He was the first member of the royal family to join the CDC board and is an active member. He tries to attend three or four meetings a year, is represented in his absence by his private secretary, Mr Edward Adeane, and often raises queries with the corporation over papers which are brought to his attention.



1. March 19: Commonwealth war graves cemetery, dinner with President Nyerere 2. March 20: CDC Wattle estate 3. March 21: Meeting, President Kaunda 4. March 22: CDC-managed sugar estate 5. Fish farm 6. March 23: CDC-supported copper mine 7. Livingstone museum, Victoria Falls 8. March 24: Lunch, President Banana 9. Agricultural research station 10. March 25: Great Zimbabwe ruins 11. March 26: Agricultural college 12. Dinner, President Nyerere; March 27: CDC-supported dam 13. March 28: Burial ground, reception 14. Diamond mine 15. March 29: CDC-supported Botswana Meat Corporation abbatoir 16. CDC-managed ranch.

Byelorussian purge after rigged murder trial

From John Burn, New York Times, Moscow

An official Soviet account of a miscarriage of justice, in which five men were falsely accused of a double murder in 1981, has ended with a wholesale purge of police and judicial officials in the republic of Bylorussia.

The shake-up, of apparently unusual severity in a case of this kind, was reported in the Government newspaper *Izvestia*. It followed an account of how policemen had extracted confessions by torture and conspired with prosecutors, the judge and other officials to gain convictions of men who were innocent of the murder.

The story, as first told in *Izvestia* last November, began on the night of July 8, 1981, when two investigators cruising on a lake in southern Byelorussia looking for poachers came across four men fishing illegally with nets stolen from a local fish processing plant.

The poachers were ordered to come ashore, and there, according to court evidence, they attacked the investigators, beat them, then held them under water to be sure they were dead.

Within days, the police in the town of Mozyr arrested five local men who, it turned out, did not know one another. When they were brought to court early last year in the provincial capital of Gomel, the prosecution produced confessions and demanded the death penalty, standard punishment for killing officials in the course of duty.

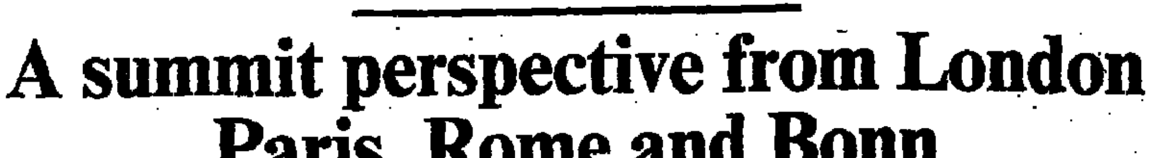
The judge, however, handed down labour camp terms of 15 years for three of the men, eight years for the fourth, and two for the fifth, who was found not to have been a direct participant in the killings.

So matters stood until the small hours of April 30, 1983, when another double murder occurred in the Mozyr area in which poaching was involved.

In this case, two policemen stopped a van being driven without lights, and the four men inside leapt out, stabbed to death the policemen and drove off. But before dying, one of the policemen manged to radio the van's licence number to headquaters.

The four men and a 16-year-old boy, all relatives, were arested. The carcass of a steer that had been stolen from a state farm was found inside the van.

As the second crime was investigated, clues suggesting that the two crimes were linked became overwhelming. The four men who had been in the van were convicted of both double murders, and the boy's father, one uncle and brother were sentenced to be shot. Another uncle was given 15 years of hard labour, and the boy himself was sentenced to seven years for knowing of the murders and not reporting them.





Countdown to Brussels

A summit perspective from London Paris, Rome and Bonn

Leaders of the ten EEC countries meet in Brussels on Monday for a make-or-break summit. Should the meeting fail, the Community could be bankrupt by the end of the year. The argument has been brought to a head by Britain's refusal to pay more than a modest contribution to the EEC budget. *The Times* correspondents in the four biggest countries assess the chances of a successful outcome.

French view of where blame lies

From Diana Geddes Paris

President Mitterrand has thrown himself into the EEC negotiations as if his whole future depended on their outcome. He passionately believes that the way forward for France must be within a United Europe: he is eager to achieve the notable success on the international front that has so far eluded him; and he wants to go down in history as the man who succeeded where others have failed.

After talks with M Mitterrand in his capacity as president of the European Council of Ministers in Paris earlier this month, M Gaston Thorn, president of the European Commission, commented: "I have rarely seen a head of state engage himself, his prestige, and his standing so fully".

Over the past three months



M Mitterrand: Put his prestige at stake.

M Mitterrand has visited every other EEC country to winkle out the possibilities for compromise on the most contentious issues at its now famous top-secret "bilaterals".

But does M Mitterrand want success at Brussels badly enough to give in to Britain's demands for a substantial reduction in its contributions to the EEC budget? With the breakthrough on the farming front, that is now seen as the last remaining big obstacle in the way of a settlement on the overall budget package.

The French see Mrs Margaret Thatcher, rather than M Mitterrand, as holding the key to summit success. Accustomed to the oriental form of bargaining, where settlement is reached by each side moving from extreme positions to a rough mid-way point. They simply cannot understand or believe that Britain embarked on the negotiations on its budget contributions from its finishing position. Could Mrs Thatcher really care so little for Europe that she would sacrifice its future for the sake of a few hundred million pounds?

There is virtually no feeling for the injustice of Britain's paying so much into Community funds, while France, which is 25% richer than Britain in terms of gross national product, pays on average no net contribution at all.

Even the highly respected *Le Monde* blames Britain's predicament primarily on its insistence on maintaining special trading links with its Commonwealth partners, importing 800,000 tons of unwanted butter from New Zealand, for example. Britain is of course free to do so, but it should not be surprised, it is argued, if it is penalized for ignoring the principles of Community preference.

M Jacques Chirac, leader of the Gaullist RPR party, has been getting a good response with his call for a "two-speed" Europe with Britain relegated to the slower stream, or for an agreement providing Britain with "temporary leave" from the Community.

As far as can be determined, M Mitterrand does not share this view. He sees Britain as an essential partner in a reinforced Europe of the future. On the other hand, he has to take public opinion into account when considering what compromise he is willing to make. He would be eaten alive if he came back from Brussels saying that after years of bitter fighting he had given in to the "Iron Lady".

Whatever compromise is reached (and it will not be reached if Mrs Thatcher does not make at least a symbolic step toward the other nine) it will have to be dressed up in such a way that M Mitterrand can present it to his people as a victory.



W Germany ready to compromise

From Michael Binyon Bonn

There is broad agreement in West Germany that Britain should be granted a durable reduction in its EEC budget contributions, if only because many West Germans are fed up with the annual quarrel over the issue, which they feel is holding up moves towards closer European integration.

There is no clear idea, however, of how much Britain should have to pay, and in the past few days Bonn has expressed increasing public irritation with what it sees as Mrs Thatcher's stand.

Chancellor Kohl suggested on Wednesday that Britain should reduce its rebate demands. He said the big three in Europe all had to make sacrifices.

Bonn has supported a system of objective indicators to show, year by year, what would be an equitable contribution by Britain. But at this stage, no one in Bonn is publicly prepared to start talking figures, knowing that this is what the real bargining will be about at the Brussels summit.

Bonn does think farm spending must be brought under control. It does not favour an actual cut, as this would



Herr Kohl: Big Three must make sacrifices.

antagonize German farmers further, but it wants to curb the growth rate.

West Germany is also being vague about increasing the Community's own resources, partly because there has been a dispute within the coalition Government about this and partly because Bonn has explicitly linked raising the ceiling on value-added tax with the enlargement of the Community to include Spain and Portugal.

However, it looks as if the Germans are ready to dig deeply into their pockets – as they have done so often in the past – if this is the only way to save the Community

For Bonn the main thing at Brussels is to prevent another failure brought about by argument over the British budget. More and more hints are being dropped that Mrs Thatcher now risks isolating herself, and that if she does hold things up, Bonn and Paris will push ahead without Britain

Open-purse policy suits Italy

From John Earle Rome

Italy enters the European Community Summit in Brussels on Monday far from the British Government's position. It admits that Britain has a special problem with its budget contributions, but believes there should be an increase in Community expenditure in sectors outside agriculture. Financial imbalances should be corrected upwards not downwards.

This, is the Italian view, can be done in several ways: governments could be called on to make a special contribution, the Community might raise loans on international markets or member's contributions could be doubled from national VAT, over a period of years, from 1 to 2 per cent.

It is maintained that VAT contributions will have to rise, as 0.2 per cent of their value will be eroded by falls in revenue from customs dues. Another 0.2 per cent will be absorbed by the expense of enlarging the Community to include Spain and Portugal.

But once there is agreement on added spending, the government of Signor Bettino Craxi



Signor Craxi: More spending key to budget issue.

believes it ought to be possible to find a formula for a long-term solution to Britain's contributions. The deficit would be compensated by advantages to Britain in imaginative policies to promote wide-ranging research

If Britain's problem is to be solved, it needs to be subjected to what is called here and accountant's approach. For example, a relatively large part of the deficit originates from customs duties on extra-community trade payments. But, it is argued, if Britain bought more of its needs in Community countries, oranges from Italy, for example, the deficit would be reduced.

The failure of the last summit in Athens made member governments think whether they wanted a real Community or just a free trade area. For the former, the Community needs to be relaunched and given new objectives.



British war on waste and costs

By Julian Haviland

The British Government believes that by insisting that the European Community bring spending under control it is doing a public service. Mrs Thatcher favours good housekeeping, both by the Government she leads and by Community institutions, which the British taxpayers helps to fund.

She cannot understand why she is sometimes charged with being negative or nationalist when she is making so positive and constructive an assault on



Mrs Thatcher: Assault on vested interests.

vested interests and wasteful surpluses.

Seen from Londin, Community expenditure is out of control, piling up unwanted produce without any adequate supervision. The British insistance on a lasting reduction in net payments is not only reasonable on grounds of justice; it is the only way of bringing Britain's partners to understand that ruin faces them unless they act.

That Brussels shald be talking already of cost overruns in 1984, only three months into its financial year, confirms this belief. Hence the Prime Minister's exasperated words last week that she was tired of the problem being described as British. It was Europe-wide, she said.

Hence also the imprecision of the British Government, both in public *statements* and in negotiations, about the size of the reduction it seeks or will settle for, and about the overall increase in resources to which at the last moment it will assent.

Ministers quote the Stuttgart agenda for the relaunching of the Community, when it was agreed that there must be adequate resources, *budgetary* fairness and budget discipline, and that all three should hang together.

"No increase in own resouces without a fair and responsible system of financing," Mrs Thatcher told Conservative MPs. "You can't have one without the other."

Fairness, the word most often on British lips, means that contributions *must* be broadly related to wealth. There must be no more ad hoc annual rebates. The solution, in the time-worn phrase, must last for as long as the problem lasts.

The new milk agreement is seen as the most hopeful sign yet that realism may have set in.

Afghan ceasefire in danger

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

A peace treaty between Soviet troops in Afghanistan and one of the most charismatic guerrilla leaders appears to be coming to an end, according to reports from Western diplomats reaching here.

Both sides in the comparatively fertile Panchsheer valley north of Kabul seem to be preparing to resume hostilities. The Russians have moved Sukhoi-25 close-support planes to Bagram base nearby, and their paratroops have been moved into the hills surrounding the valley. The Afghan villagers have moved women, children and old people out of the valley and down to Kabul.

The peacee pact was negotiated a year ago between the Russians and the local guerilla leader, Shah Ahmed Mahsood. In return for a ceasefire the Soviet forces were allowed to keep two small garrisons in the valley, while the inhabitants were permitted to go about their business – even if that business included training camps for other Mujahidin fighters, or storing and shipping of arms.

In addition Mr Mahsood himself was free to operate outside the valley, which he has been doing effectively north of the Salang pass where so many fuel tankers have now been ambushed that Kabul has a severe petrol shortage.

Nevertheless the Russians plainly feel that the treaty has been worthwhile for them: it has relieved pressure on their orces and freed troops of the Kabul regime for operations elsewhere. The Russians have been anxious to renegotiate it, according to many sources here.

In return the Russians have offered to withdraw their garrison altogether from Anawa in the valley. But the representatives that Mr Mahsood sent to meet them declared that he was indifferent to whether the garrison stayed or went: he was willing to extend the ceasefire only if it were dramatically expanded to include the Shomali valley, south of the Panchsheer, stretching almost to the outskirts of Kabul, and Kohestan, part of Badakhshan province to the north.

This plainly was not acceptable to the Russians, and they began reinforcing the Anawa garrison.

Inside the Panchsheer valley Mr Mansood, an engineering graduate still only in his thirties, acts as a benevolent despot.

However, because he belongs to a minority tribe, the Tajiks, he is unlikely to come to national power because the majority Pushtoons would probably not accept his leadership.

His abilities took him quickly to the head of his own *mujahidin* force after the Soviet Invasion. He belongs to the fundamentalist group of guerrillas loyal to Mr Yunus Khali in Peshawar, Pakistan, but he is regarded by Western observers as by far the most efficient resistance leader inside Afghanistan.

● BONN: West Germany has given a public assurance that Corporal Yuri Vashchenko, a 20-year-old Soviet prisoner of war captured in Afghanistan who is seeking political asylum, would not be sent back to the Soviet Union against his will (Michael Binyon writes).

Soviet peace activist's trial put off

Moscow (AP) – the trial of a Soviet Peace activist Mrs Olga Medvedkova, accused of resisting arrest and 'assaulting the police, was postponed for one week yesterday because her lawyer broke a leg.

Three American correspondents were briefly detained by KGB agents while interviewing Mrs Medvedkova and her family, accused of filming a military station near the courthouse. The correspondents said they were aware of any nearby special installations that are forbidden to be filmed.

Mrs Medvedkova, one of the founding members of the "group for Establishing Trust between the Soviet Union and the US" is accused of resisting arrest on October 13, when police detained her and other group members while protesting against the trial of a fellow peace activist, Oleg Radzinsky.

Forces combine to hunt tribal cattle raiders

Nairobi–Kenyan and Ugandan security forces, including helicopters have mounted a joint operation against tribal cattle raiders on both sides of their common border (Charles Harrison writes).

Cattle raiding in the Karamoja area of north-east Uganda and the Pokot and Turkana areas of north-west Kenya have been causing serious concern. Armed raiders have been attacking established farms in the Kitale area of western Kenya.

Editors change

Rome – Signor Gino Palumbo, editor of the sporting daily *Gazzetta dello Sport* is to take over as editor of Italy's biggest newspaper, *Corriere della Sera* of Milan, from Signor Alberto Cavallari when the latter's contract expires on June 19.

Gun salute

Peking (AP) – China is resuming the practice of firing a 21-gun salute for visiting heads of state, suspended in 1966 at the start of the cultural revolution. There will be a 19-gun salute for heads of government.

Last post

Canberra (AP). – The last permanent Australian fighter squadron will be withdrawn from Malaysia by 1988, ending a military presence that has lasted more than 30 years.

THE ARTS

Theatre

A play on worlds

The Way of the World
Greenwich

Like *The White Devil*, this second production by the Glasgow Citizens directorate challenges classical preconceptions with a strikingly unexpected set: a severe black and white room by Sue Blane, with chalk-inscribed walls and figures in scholars' gowns bent over a central table.

Briefly covered with a white cloth for Lady Wishfort's boudoir, the table otherwise establishes the location as a combined gaming club and lawyer's office, with no escape to the chocolate house or St James's Park.

I detect in this a needless resolve to tell us that Congreve's play is about money (what English classical comedy is not?). More important, it is of considerable help in disentangling the notoriously incomprehensible plot; which also undergoes drastic clarification from Giles Havergal's textual editing.

For most of the performance, downstage action is observed from the sidelines by the other principals, either as eavesdroppers, or as interested parties who would dearly love to change places with the audience. The characteristic tone of the evening is urgent, secretive, and *sotto voce*.

The chief guardian of this style is Ann Mitchell's Marwood, a reptilian evil genius, conveying unspeakable venom and sensuality with imperceptible movements of her mouth and flickering tongue, and typically denouncing Fainall in a intense, hissing undertone.

Meanwhile the gowned figures are always on hand to clarify the events with pantomimic preliminaries, ironic servant routines, and finally to come forward with deed-boxes marked "Fainall" and "Millamant", driving home to those who have still not grasped the point that the intrigue turns on a double inheritance.

This sombre reading of the play supplies a framework for a remarkably sunny group of central performances. It is as though Fainall and his associates form a threatening circle around a playground inhabited by wits and romantics innocent of the way of the world.

Some of the performances are distinctly lightweight. Avis Bunnage is an irresistible comedian, but her Lady Wishfort is an irreclaimably Victorian social climber, too addicted to roguish eye-play with the audience to appear a monster. Rupert Frazer, graced by an aquiline profile and suave footwork, plays Mirabell's proposal scene with imperturbable poise, but seems an unlikely mediator between the two worlds of play and graft.

The servants, particularly Joahanna Kirby's mischievous Foible, are splendid. And Paola Dionisottis works a radical transformation of Millamant from the traditional hot-house creature to an arch-calculator forever dropping her pretense of feminine langour for brisk business-like statements of her sexual terms.

Irving Wardle

State of emergency

One for the Road
Lyric Studio

Menace from mystery is assumed to be a Pinter trademark, but his new lunchtime play at Hammersmith (same title as Willy Russell's latest) is different. Mention of the PEN Writers in Prison Fund in the programme gives an early clue; Tim Bickerton's set offers another.

Alan Bates's suit is anonymously respectable; so is the furniture; but the high barred window, almost too high to look out of, tells more. Then his guest arrives: Roger Lloyd Pack, his hair matted, his face bloody and bruised, his movements palsied from torture. Their relationship is not in doubt.

The Pinter scrupulousness with language, like the Pinter menace, is given new purpose. Sometimes the inquisitor, articulate as he is, takes a phrase and tests the refractive effect of different emphases as though handling a prism. All the more striking, then, are the unthinking abstractions the regime uses to justify itself: "Keeping the world clean for God."

We learn little about this state, but one thing is clear. Its ideals sanctify any illogicality; hence, rational thought is both the greatest crime and the most potent enemy.

It goes without saying that, in Pinter's direction and script alike, touches of the sinister show masterly economy. "Is your son all right?", Mr Bates asks courteously, as if ignorant. "Your wife and I had a nice chat...she didn't look her best." (He would have relished Swift's comment that a woman's being flayed "altered her person for the worse".)

The prisoner's wife (Jenny Quayle) is dismissed as unreliable because she cannot remember how many times she has been raped. What she can remember is her husband on their first meeting, picking up a paper she dropped in the street: her face takes on an astonished beauty, a glimpse of what kind of lives are being destroyed. As for the seven-year-old "young fry of treachery" (Felix Yates), language significantly disposes of him; verbs switch to the past tense.

The curtain-raiser, *Victoria Station*, underlines the contrast of styles. First seen at the Cottesloe, this alarming little two-hander for a minicab driver and his boss on the blower creates the familiar sense of emptiness with all Pinter's old art and wit.

Anthony Masters

Donald Cooper



Bates and Lloyd Pack

Methusalem
Bloomsbury

Michael Rennison's production of Ivan Goll's 1922 Expressionist farce, though strongly acted, is much less funny than a first reading led me to expect.

Thirteen Slade students have produced a never-ending succession of surreal props, costumes and sets – and, considering the demands for a stageful of talking animals, a double-decker bus, a riot, a robot telling jokes and a teleprinter in a pinstripe suit travelling by lift, if this is its British première I am not surprised. The real trouble is an elaborate, erudite score by George Benjamin which doubtless deserves specialist criticism all to itself but theatrically prevents the scenes from gathering pace.

Happily cast in the name part of the shoe-manufacturing millionaire, Christopher Biggins suggests a bourgeois Humpty Dumpty whose massive watch-chain pendant, a safe, threatens him with a mischief whenever he sits. Film, a true period touch, shows his disgusting dream fantasies. The absurd dialogue ("There's no Parsley left in nature") is strikingly like Ionesco, but lacks momentum.

His daughter (Juliet Hammond), a romantic ninny in pink, is seduced by a Marxist student. Meanwhile her effusive mother (Veronica Gifford), literally tied to the stove, touts an outsize tea-tray among guests garbed, in tiny Liz Moscrop's case, in joints and sausages with two cream buns crowning the cleavage.

The amusing triple-courtship scene anticipates Woody Allen and Peter Nichols's *Passion Play*: the boy's Superego (clearly marked) murmurs sweet nothings, Ego notices the girl's sweaty gloves, Id urges rape and has to be forcibly restrained. And the shot Methusalem's prosperous resurrection as the couple face only poverty and dirty nappies makes a bleak conclusion.

But generally the show has the bite and virility of a neutered lapdog, a stylistic exercise reducing the play to a camp, pseudish museum-piece.

Anthony Masters

Radio

Economy please

I was interested and rather depressed to discover on turning up this column for the same Saturday a year ago that, if I had retyped it with only minor amendments (e.g. the winner of the Sun Alliance Steeplechase at Cheltenham, the names of the Chancellor and the leader of the Opposition) and presented it as an account of Budget Day on radio, 1984, you would have been hard put to guess that it was nothing of the sort.

That may tell you something of the writer, but it also says something about the event, for I must say that as I dipped into the coverage last Tuesday, I had a job to remember which year I was in. Not only did the self-same team preside in PM Budget Special, but in their general sense the comments and opinions also sounded well-nigh indistinguishable from the year before. Those already predisposed to do so told us that the Budget did nothing for jobs, only for shareholders; those of a different predisposition saw it as a Budget for industry and that must mean a Budget for jobs.

Over on Radio 2, I have no doubt that the year we're in also sounded a good deal like its precursor, for there again was Jimmy Young with Dominic Harrod; there again – even – was the racing at Cheltenham. This year, however, I scorned Radio 2 and turned to LBC to find them running something like a scaled-down version of Radio 4: only two studio guests – one from the Institute of Directors, one from the GLC – and I think not more than two presenters, but a fair amount of comment brought in by telephone from other interested parties.

Although Radio 4 had billed "comment and analysis on long wave, speech on VHF", all its listeners got the Chancellor in full. On VHF they got Neil Kinnock too. The speech was there in full on LBC as well. The truth is that a broadcast speech offers few opportunities for simultaneous comment and none at all for analysis – although perhaps LBC did marginally better with the voice-over than the BBC. But no amount of this would have concealed the fact that the Budget speech is always a deeply uninviting set piece; it reduces even the Commons to a kind of restless muttering that betokens serious inattention, while unlike the occasional broadcast debate or the regular parliamentary programmes it conveys little of the concerns and atmosphere of Westminster. From now on I would be glad to trade it for a 10-minute summary. If ever there were an occasion on which what we want is the content not the container, this is it.

On Sundays and Mondays Radio 4 is pursuing another thread of its fascination with government and in particular with the arcane workings of the Civil Service. I say *its* fascination because I am not sure that With Respect, Ambassador (producer, Anne Sloman) has been able to awaken great enthusiasm in its listeners, certainly when compared with *No Minister* or *But Chancellor...* In Simon Jenkins's series that most romantic and elite of all the civil services, the Foreign and Colonial Office has thus far been the subject of two fairly pedestrian programmes.

Radio 3's major drama production of the week was also in its way a re-enactment of an ancient ritual. Passings by Ian Weir (March 15, director, Glyn Dearman) was the story of King Arthur told "not as we remember him" by two minstrels. After his last battle, the wounded king (Paul Daneman) looks back on incidents of a reign that was marked by "complaints from every parish, but the approval of God", its policies shaped by a Scottish Merlin keen on benevolent dictatorship, and seeking only "an efficient little kingdom that worked".

David Wade

Concert

Kuijken/Sonnleitner
Wigmore Hall

Perhaps we are fortunate that, Bach seems to have turned his hand only sporadically to the chamber music medium. If he had to work on a production-line basis the repertoire might have larger but surely no richer, though no doubt the flautist Barthold Kuijen could have convinced us otherwise.

As it was, he played two of the three extant works for flute with harpsichord obbligato, partnered by Johann Sonnleitner. In the A major Sonata, BWV 1032, a classic example of inventiveness harnessed by discipline, Kuijken allowed even the faster music a sense of breadth. Sonnleitner, however, was hampered by an instrument whose bass was as painfully penetrating as its treble, and consequently the equality of the musicians was threatened.

So it was in the B minor Sonata, BWV 1030. Here the opening Andante aspired to a profundity quite the equal of the opening chorus of the *St Matthew Passion*, while the short, slow aria that follows was lent an intense emotional power by Kuijken's malleable rhythm and concentrated, mellow sound.

In both sonatas Kuijken was impressive, but Bach's Sonata for solo flute brought out all mastery of his playing. The range of colours that can conjure from the baroque flute is immense, and there is no hint of the gaunt breathiness that characterizes some English players. His phrasing of the three faster dance movements sounded completely natural while again the Sarabande was richly expressive. Sonnleitner's sols, the Preludes and Fugues in F major and minor from Book Two of *The Well-Tempered Klavier*, had neither the immediacy of a Koopman nor the insight of a Leonhard to commend them. Neverless, this player is obviously an individualist, as his at times rather odd sense of *rubato* suggested.

Stephen Pettitt

Television

Most plays about skinheads are written and produced by people twice the age of their subject-matter: their dramatic purchase on teenage reality is often commensurately tenuous. Jonathan Moore is only 24, and was even younger when he wrote Treatment (BBC2). Is this then the Real Thing?

As a member of that earlier, vicariously-living generation, I had better be careful what I say, but I think the answer is still no. It was presumably the director, Chris Menaul, who cooked up the fetishistic burst of media-violence at the end (sudden suffusions with black-and-white "authenticity", quick hints of Toxteth and Railton Road), but the production as a whole seemed to be trying too hard to Explain.

"It's a battle for your self-respect, your dignity", said the hero's unregenerate boot-boy brother to the vicar who had been trying ("you're brighter than you pretend to be") to save the hero's secretly sensitive soul. "He lived in the real world. I didn't. I can't", said the vicar, lugubriously to camera, before the brother put the boot in.

"I despised his ignorance, loved his body", said the former Cambridge undergraduette, of her brutal paramour. "The first thing in the morning, I came to love his innocence, his remarkable silence. He refreshed me." At university, she observed, she had been "a sort of Zuleika Dobson without the jokes".

The hero himself, played by the author (an actor since the age of 16), seemed to be in the grip of paranoia, part Wozzeck and part wolf, torn between the desire to read books and the fear that defection from the boot-boy ranks would mean the loss of his identity.

But – crude stylization and self-conscious vamping aside, I would far sooner watch this play a second time than I would, say, David Leland's *Made in Britain* or Trevor Griffiths' *Oi for England*, two notable recent skinhead essays: there was something genuine here, an ambition – at least half realized – to see what made these creatures tick. Part of this was due to the conviction Moore brought to his part, and part to the writing at climactic moments.

Having dealt with this obligatory subject, Moore should now tackle something less hackneyed. He is apparently working on two new plays: they could be interesting.

Michael Church

Wales! Wales? (tomorrow, BBC 2, 5.10pm), Dai Smith's odyssey through the psyche of his countrymen, is committed social history, and I am surprised that someone thought there was a need for the interrogation in the title. The pictures, and the judgments that complement them, are of the exclamation-mark variety. The first three films in the series have shown quite clearly that this Wales is Mr Smith's and he has nailed his socialism to the mast. Last Sunday, dealing with the Tonypandy riots of 1910, he hammered away with such force

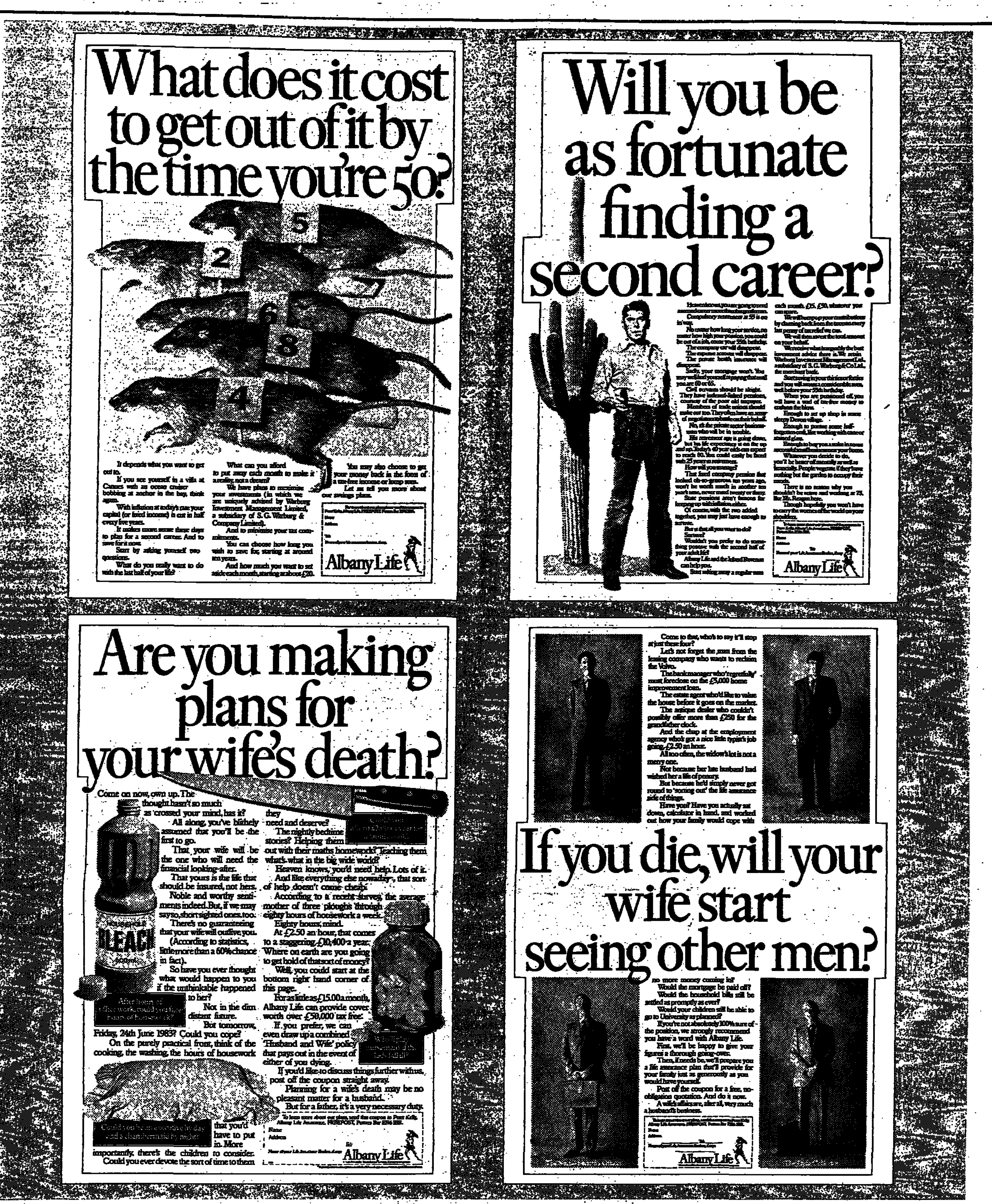
WEEKEND CHOICE

that it looked as if the mast might snap. He is in no less a passionate mood tomorrow night as he examines the years that lead to the General Strike of 1926, the lock-out of the miners and the depression, industrial and psychological, that followed.

He relies heavily on the practised skill of his fellow Welshman, Kenneth Griffith (one moment a preacher, the next a grocer, the next a polisher of chapel woodwork, but most frequently a reincarnation of the Rhymney Valley bard Idris Davies) both to sharpen and soften the polemic with poetry. Davies's miners were "slaves who bled for beer". Mr Smith calls them men who have always had a bad Press. But, whether in the 1920s or the 1980s, they have occupied centre-stage position in our national industrial drama, so the topicality of *Wales! Wales?* requires no underlining.

Peter Davalle

[هكذا من الأصل]



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THE TIMES DIARY

Without a jumper

Since taking off is unquestionably the most important part of high-jumping. Ulrike Meyfarth, of West Germany, the former Olympic high jump champion and world record holder, has been stoutly defending her decision to pose naked for an 84-year-old sculptor called Arno Breker. Ulrike revealed: "I did it for art, because Mr Breker said that the female form was sacred and should be immortalized."

Tokyo rows

Prince Hiro of Japan, an undergraduate at Merton College, Oxford and an honorary member of Vincent's Club, will be a guest at the Boat Race today. His grandfather, Emperor Hirohito, was in his day taught the skills of watermanship by W. G. "Bill" East, a British professional sculling champion. This is not the only contact between Japan and the universities: Oxford and Cambridge have also fought it out along the Sumida River in Japan, and a Combined Universities' side has taken on the Japanese at Rugby. There is also a possibility of a universities football side travelling to Japan. Incidentally, there is an east wind forecast for the race today.

Grand sham

A sad tale: John Hickey, a rugby full back, arrived late for the first XV match between Clifton and Warminster and was rebuked by his captain. Hickey explained that he had suffered a sudden family bereavement which put a different complexion on things. The captain explained to the referee, and, on a cold and windy day, the two teams stood in silence for two minutes. After the match, someone asked Hickey if the deceased was a very close member of the family. "Certainly was," Hickey replied. "It was my cat." He is now playing for the third XV.

Colourful tale

I have been receiving further bids in the snooker maximum break debate: Maurice Down has a new high. First, he says, a player must concede 155 points in fouls. Then he must undergo a stunning turn-round in form, as the second player leaves him foully snookered. He pockets the nominated ball, a black, 15 reds, 15 blacks and all the colours leaving the scores at 155 all. The black is respotted, he wins the toss, and pots the black. Total: 162. Hm ...

Alive and kicking

Don't think the fight for England's footballing honour is already lost: Our Girls are doing their damndest in total obscurity, preparing to take on a foreign foe preening themselves under the spotlight of national attention. England play Denmark in a two-leg European championship semi-final, and the second leg in Denmark on April 28 will be televised. Not so the first leg, at Crewe Alexandra's ground on April 8. Said Linda Whitehead, secretary of the Women's Football Association: "It's time this country woke up to the fact that the standard here is much higher than people might think."

Happy Holladay

I am afraid the bookmakers are not taking bets on the next player to take advantage of the "Terry Holladay rule" which governs maternity leave for members of the Women's Tennis Association. The rule was created for Miss Holladay, a Wightman Cup player in 1976. She got married, had a child, and last summer wanted to get back to the circuit. Since it seemed unfair to condemn her to the wilderness of prequalifying and qualifying tournaments, a tennis equivalent of mother's ruin, the WTA introduced a rule granting a mother a year following the child's birth in which to apply for temporary ranking. There are 35 married women in the WTA ranking, which, in the theory at least, keeps the field down a bit.

House conversion

The Idea of a House of Commons rugby team is enough to terrify the opposition (can you get sent off for backbiting?) but Philip Oppenheim, aged 27 and Conservative MP for Amber Valley in Derbyshire, is all in favour of it. Could there be a chance of an Alliance, with the rugby enthusiast from Wales on the Other Side? Perhaps, so long as Oppenheim is allowed to play in the position he normally fills for Amber Valley second XV – right wing.

Simon Barnes

BARRY FANTONI



"To help acclimatize him to empty space, they're sending him to Woburn Abbey"

Power to the players

Simon Callow calls for an actors' revolution – to depose the directors

Starting at the end of the last century and increasingly during the course of our own the theatre has become colonized by a determined group, the directors. It is they who run the theatres, they who determine policy, they who engage the artists who actually execute the work, and they who put the stamp of their personality on the production itself – the end product of all our labours.

There are a number of consequences of this unchallenged hegemony which devolve most strikingly on the actors and the writers. Actors, quite clearly, have been stripped on initiative and responsibility. Writers, on the other hand, have been made to believe that the closest collaboration with a director is the only way in which their work will be properly realized.

The director has interposed himself between actor and writer, claiming that they cannot speak each other's language. The assertion of the supremacy of *the text* has provided a stick with which to beat actors. *Acting* has become a pejorative term, used to delineate something impure, an accretion and a product of the actor's egomania. The crucial element in the act of theatre, the actor's delight in the opportunities afforded him by the writer, has been abolished – outlawed by a breed of directors who have little experience and no comprehension of the rich and vital processes of acting.

The idea of a director's style or indeed a company's style seems inherently to threaten the individuality of the work itself. It is also easier and less interesting to impose such a style than to undertake the enormous task of entering the mind and hearts of people of another time – and, as far as plays are concerned, any time before yesterday is another time.

All plays are, as it were, the fragment of a cup found in the rubble of Herculaneum from which an entire civilization can be reconstructed: That should be the director's task: the work of rehearsal should be the quest for style because that is the embodiment of the world and the art of the author. It represents the conjunction between his personality, the times in which he wrote, and the theatrical form in which he expressed himself.

The theatre is one of the archetypal Arts of Memory, on many levels. If we turn it instead into a mere living newspaper we conspire in the processes by which modern man has come to feel adrift in history, without roots and without branches – galactic flotsam and jetsam. Milan Kundera has described this phenomenon most vividly: without a past, we are children. To be grown up is to have a memory. The theatre, relentlessly trying to live in the today, this minute, has become childish.

The questions that should be asked are: what was the author's world? What made it tick? In what ways was it different to our world? What was seventeenth century about a seventeenth century play, German about a German one? In what ways is a Shakespeare play different to one by Kyd? And then, above all, how do those particulars find expression by its playing style? These questions and their answers are habitually confined to the programme notes. If they were the whole quest of the rehearsal, our stages would be filled with the most extraordinary, surprising and disturbing visions. Moreover, the actors, instead of enslaving themselves to a directorial conceit with which they may or may not agree, would be immersed in the very source of the work in question, not engaged in decorating its surface.

The role of the director in this work is crucial and indispensable. However, instead of being the *fons et origo* of the entire enterprise, he would be chosen – employed, to be blunt – by the actors, specifically for his knowledge of the world of the play and its performing traditions. The actors would use him or her to challenge themselves to the utmost flexibility in reaching the play's world and style.

Of course, it will be difficult for actors to begin with. The first thing that colonized peoples lose is their initiative. There will be terrible failures – it'll be hard to rediscover the ways of independence: but it must be done.

The important thing is to restore to each other, the writer and the actor, without the self-elected intervention of the director, claiming a unique position, interpreting the one to the other. We do not need an interpreter. We speak the same language, or at least we used to.

Extracted from the author's Being An Actor *to be published by Methuen on March 29 at £7.95.*

Argentina's top tango troupe makes its London debut tonight. **Jorge Luis Borges** reflects on the origins of his country's national dance and its place in the national character

Tangling with the tango

From time to time films present us with their story of the development of the tango. According to this sentimental version, the tango seems to have been born on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, in tenements. At the outset, the upper classes appear to have looked askance at the tango, but around 1910, under the tutelage of Paris, these same people seem finally to have thrown open their doors to this interesting product of the slums. This tale of rags to riches, is by now a sort of incontestable or axiomatic truth. My memories and the research into oral tradition that I have undertaken by no means confirm it.

The tango originated in brothels. The cost of the instruments that tangos were first played on – the piano, flute, violin, and only later the concertina – is proof that the tango did not arise in the city's shabby outskirts, where – as everyone knows – the six strings of a guitar had always been sufficient. There is no lack of further confirmation: the lasciviousness of the dance steps; the sexual connotations of certain titles ("El choclo", the corn cob, "El fierrazo", the big rod), the fact , which as a boy I myself observed in Palermo and years later in Chacarita and Bocdo, that it was danced on the street corners by male couples, because decent women would have no part of such a wanton dance.

The tango's sexual nature has often been noted, but not so its violent side. Both, it is true, are modes or manifestations of the same impulse. In all the languages I know the word "manly" connotes sexual potentiality and a potential to bellicosity, and the word *virtus*, Latin for "courage", stems from *vir*, meaning "man." In the same way, an Afghan in the novel *Kim* can state – as if the two acts were essentially one – "When I was fifteen, I had shot my man and begot my man."





A sexual and violent nature

Merely to connect the tango with violence is not strong enough. I maintain that the tango and the milonga are a direct expression of something that poets have often tried to state in words: the belief that a fight may be a celebration. In Jordanes' sixth century *History of the Goths*, we read that Attila, before his defeat at Châlons, addressed his armies, telling them that fortune had reserved for them "the joys of this battle (*certaminis hujus gaudia*). The Iliad tells of the Achaeans, to whom war was sweeter than returning home in empty ships to their dearly loved native land, and relates how Paris, the son of Priam, ran swiftly to battle like a stallion that tosses its flowing mane in pursuit of mares. In the Old English epic Beowulf, the poet calls the battle a *"sweorda gelac,"* or "game of swords." Scandinavian skalds of the eleventh century called it "the festivity of Vikings." In the early part of the seventeenth century, Quevedo, in one of his *jácaras*, called a duel "a dance of swords," which is very near the anonymous Anglo-Saxon's "game of swords."

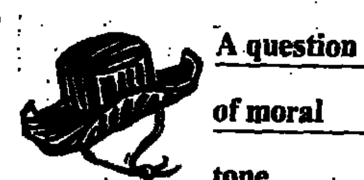
These examples, collected in the course of my random reading, could easily be multiplied. In the *Chanson de Roland* perhaps, or in Ariosto's vast poem similar passages could be found. Some of those recorded here – the one by Quevodo or the one about Attila, let us say – are undeniably effective. All of them, however, suffer from the original sin of literariness: they are structures of words, constructs made up of symbols. "Dance of swords," for example, invites us to link two dissimilar things – the dance and combat – in order that the former infuse the latter with joy. But "dance of swords" does not speak directly to our blood: it does not re-create this joy in us. Schopenhauer has written that music is altogether independent of the real world. Without the world, without a common stock of memories that can be evoked by language, there would certainly be no literature, but music stands in no need of the world: music could still exist even if there were no world at all. Music is will and passion; the old tango as music, immediately transmits this joy of battle that Greek and Germanic poets trid long ago to express in words. A few present day composers strive for this heroic tone and somtimes achieve it but their labours – their deliberately old-fashioned lyrics and music – are exercises in nostalgia for what once was, laments for what will never be again.

We read in one of Oscar Wilde's conversations that music reveals to each of us a personal past which until then we were unaware of, moving us to lament misfortunes we never suffered and to feel guilt for acts we never committed. For myself, I confess that I cannot hear the old tango without remembering exactly an apocryphal past, at one and the same time stoic and orgiastic, in which I have thrown down the challenge and, in silence, met my end in an obscure knife fight. Perhaps this is the tango's mission: to give Argentines the conviction of having had a brave past, of having fulfilled the demands of bravery and honour.

The independence of South America was, to a large extent, an Argentine affair. Men from the Argentine fought in battles all over the continent. Then came the civil wars, the war with Brazil, the war with Paraguay, and the frontier wars with the Indians. Our military past is abundant, but the fact is that the Argentine, while he considers himself brave, identifies not with that past (in spite of the prominence given the study of history in our schools) but with the vast generic figures of the "Gaucho" and the "Hoodlum". If I am not mistaken, this paradoxical idiosyncrasy can be explained. The Argentine finds his symbol in the gaucho, and not in the soldier, because the courage with which oral tradition invests the gaucho is not in the service of a cause but is pure. The gaucho and the hoodlum are looked upon as rebels; Argentines, in contrast to North Americans and nearly all Europeans, do not identify with the state. This may be accounted for by the generally accepted fact that the state is an unimaginable abstraction? The truth is that the Argentine is an individual, not a citizen. To him, an aphorism like Hegel's "The State is the reality of an ethical Idea" seems a sinister joke. Films dreamed up in Hollywood repeatedly hold up to us the case of a man (usually a newspaper reporter) who befriends a criminal in order, ultimately, to turn him in to the police. The Argentine, to whom friendship is a passion an the police a Mafia, feels that that "hero" is an incomprehensible scoundrel. He feels with Don Quixote that "each man should tend to his own sins" and that "and honest man should not go out of his way to be another man's jailer" when faced with the empty symmetries of Spanish style. I thought that we differed hopelessly from Spain: these two quotations from *Don Quixote* were enough to convince me of my mistake. They are the quiet, secret sign of an affinity.

Tango lyrics – whether the product of inspiration or industry – make up, after half a century, an almost inextricable *corpus poeticum*, which the historians of Argentine literature will read or at least defend. The popular, so long as people have stopped understanding it, so long as it has been aged by the years, manages to arouse the nostalgic veneration of scholars and gives rise to polemics and glossaries. It is not unlikely that by about 1990 the suspicion or the certainty may arise that the true poetry of our time will be found not in such Argentine classics as Banchs' *Urna* or Mastronardi's *Luz de provincia* but in the unpolished human pieces collected in a magazine like *El alma que canta*, which publishes hit songs. Guilty of negligence, I have neither bought nor studied this chaotic repository, but I am not unaware of its variety and the growing bounds of its subject matter. The first tangos had no lyrics, or, if they did, the lyrics were improvised and obscene. Some dealt with rustic life ("I am the loyal woman/of the Buenos Aires gaucho"), because their composers sought popular subjects, and low life and the slums were not poetic material – not then. Other tangos, like the related milonga, were lighthearted bits of boasting ("When I tango I'm so sharp/that, turning a double whisk,/word reaches the Northside/if I am dancing on the South"). Later on, this genre, like certain French naturalistic novels or certain engravings by Hogarth, chronicled the seamy side of life ("Next you became the mistress/of an old pharmacist/and the police chief's son/cleaned you out"). After that came the deplorable conversion of down-and-out or rough neighbourhoods to respectability ("Puente Alsina,/where have all your hooligans gone?/or "Where are those men and women,/ the red neckerchiefs and tall-crowned hats that Requena used to know?/Where is my Villa Crespo of yesteryear?/The Jews moved in, and Triumvirato is no more").

At the opening of his satires, Juvenal wrote memorably that everything which moved man – his wishes, fears, wrath, pleasures of the flesh, intrigues, joys – would be the subject of his book; with excusable license we could apply his famous *"quidquid agunt homines"* to sum of tango lyrics. We could also say that they make up a vast random *comédie humaine* of Buenos Aires life.



A question of moral tone

It was Andrew Fletcher, the seventeenth-century Scottish political figure, who remarked that "if a man were permitted to make all the ballads, he need not care who should make the laws of a nation. "This observation suggests that popular, or traditional, poetry can influence sentiments and shape behavior. If we apply this thesis to the Argentine tangto, we would find in it a mirror of our daily lives and at the same time a mentor or model whose influence is certainly malignant.

Back in 1926 I remember blaming the Italians for the denigration of the tango. In the myth, or fantasy of our "native " tango perverted by "gringos".

I now see a clear symptom of certain nationalistic heresies that later swept the world – under the impetus of the Italians, of course. It was not the concertinas, which some time ago I dubbed cowardly, or the busy songwriters of a seaside slum that made the tango what it is but the whole country. Besides, the odd "natives" who fathered the tango were named Bevilacqua, Greco, or de Bassi.

There are those who may wish to object to my defamation of the present-day tango on the grounds that the transition from boldness or swagger to self-pity is not necessarily regrettable and may even be a sign of maturity. The answer is easy. It is not just a question of the tango's hedonism but of its moral tone. In the everyday tango of Beunos Aires, in the tango of family reunions and respectable tearooms, there is a streak of vulgarity, an unwholesomeness of which the tango of the knife and the brothel never even dreamed.

The Cedron Quartet is performing at the Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, today and tomorrow at 8.30 pm (01-748 3354).

Roy Strong

Happy birthday to me once more

I rediscovered my birthday at the age of 40. It had interested me up until the age of 25, after which it was virtually banished from my mind for a decade and a half. I fancy that this rediscovery in middle age is not unusual and, now that Christmas has been ruined, it is much more fun and far more unexpected to send friends birthday cards.

"But how did you know?" they all exclaim, for finding out the dates, often dropped by accident in conversation through the year, is quite an art. Then they have to be written into a birthday calendar which has to be pinned up where it can catch the eye in time. Bulk buying of cards becomes an essential part of this pleasurable activity.

The Queen is lucky in having two birthdays and in Catholic countries there is the name-day, which in my mind only evokes Monsieur Triquet reciting his stately poem to Tatiana in *Eugene Onegin*. But, alas, most of us must be content with just one.

Even if I read nothing else in *The Times* I always run my eyes down the birthday column. One reason is the bizarre alignment of people: Lawrence Durrell, 72, Antoinette Sibley, 45, and Elizabeth Taylor, 52, all on February 27. One's own birthday is shared by the unlikely assortment of Gene Kelly, Carl Dolmetsch and Lord Kissin. The other, far from charitable reason is to tot up just how long this or that person has to run in office. And then there is the ultimate mystery of who choses who gets in.

Old age, on the whole, is the cruellest joke of all, so it is always bewildering that the older public figures become, the higher their ratings on the birthday applausometer. After the age of 70 the British forgive virtually everyone for everything, and the long-livers enter their apogee. Lady Diana Cooper, the new Earl of Stockton, and above all, the Queen Mother enter the league-table of birthdays evoking semi-national festivals in which they are approximated to their ideal selves amid a blaze of publicity. It is a curious line of argument in defence of the heriditary system that equates the completion of nine decades of existence with an earldom.

In respect of long-livers, my most memorable overheard conversation on this subject of birthdays was between Lord Drogheda and the late Dame Marie Rambert. The latter, athletic to the end, rushed up the aisle of the Royal Opera House and butted in, saying: "I'll be 91 in four weeks time". "So what", came the withering reply. "Sir Robert Mayer will be 100 in June and you'll never catch him up."

That centennial was marked by a splendid concert in the Festival Hall, which brings me to the subject of parties. The redoubtable Christobel, Lady Aberconway, made a great cult of her birthday, so much so that her famous party stretched over two days by the close of her life. I caught them in their final phase when she sat with her onyx-handled walking stick beside her beneath a tree in her Mayfair garden receiving the annual obeisance of *le monde*. So crowded had it become that guests spent most of the time stepping back into the pond.

Lord Weidenfeld ushered in his fiftieth year in the 1970s with a party in "exotic dress". Unfortunately, the pious wife of one recipient of an invitation misread this as "erotic dress" and tore it up. I remember going as Aubrey Beardsley's vision of the Regency carrying a vast fur muff and the event was a monument to vanished opulence. To the same era belonged a long series of annual birthday parties given by Mrs Henry J. Heinz in honour of her husband. These included a party on a boat which sailed up to Greenwich, remarkable because two ladies appeared wearing exactly the same expensive dress and were unable to avoid each other; and another at Regent's Park Zoo to which we were bidden to come disguised as animals, which evoked some very curious results.

When a relative died a few years ago we found the whole year's birthday cards all neatly signed, sealed and stamped with a note attached to each telling the domestic when to post it. For that person the magic had evaporated. For me it still remains and every year I love opening every silly card lifting a hand to the passing of time, and being thankful for the endurance through it, of so much friendship and affection.

Phillip Whitehead



Calke Abbey: a fossil in need of funds

Preserving the past, failing the present

As we move back towards the nineteenth century all taxes on wealth, which limit its accummulation in private hands to the advantage of the public revenue, attract vituperative attack.

Thus Mr Roger Scruton, bent on persuading us that he is the third Marquess of Salisbury reincarnate – and I am prepared to be persuaded – fulminates against "a sop to envy and an insult to success", and laments the forlorn gentry, as they shuffle offstage with every child, horse and hound, consigning their chattels to the visigoths of the National Trust.

Even he would be confused by a family which is amiable and eccentric rather than envied and successful, which has not seen a child for a generation and therefore has no heir, and which proposed to make over its house to the nation at an eventual cost to the Exchequer which could be some £10m.

Calke Abbey, in south Derbyshire, has been the subject of an extraordinary rescue operation by the heritage lobby. When the last male Harpur-Crewe heir succeeded his bachelor brother in 1981 as life tenant, his trustees were faced with a capital transfer tax bill of between £7m and £8m. The estate could have won exemptions by setting up a maintenance fund, but it did not do so.

The trustees therefore proposed that the abbey and park should be transferred to the nation, and thus to the National Trust, with additional endowment coming from the acceptance of agricultural land in lieu of tax – 8,000 acres out of the total 14,000. There was much clamour from the great and the good about the unique nature of Calke as a "time capsule" in mint Rip Van Winkle condition, an "oasis in a region encircled by towns", which would be an enormous boon to the people of the area.

It is certainly a time capsule which looks, when you come upon it unexpectedly, to have made an awkward landing in the park, facing the wrong way. Until its doors were recently openly to a sympathetic press it was as sealed from the inquisitive gaze of the populace as if it lay beneath the sands of the Valley of the Kings. Inside are the votive offerings of Sir Vauncey Harpur-Crewe and his clan, mute inglorious Scrutons every one. Victorian furnishings and bric-a-brac, more stuffed animals than you will find on the hoof in all Derbyshire, join what Lord Vaizey unkindly describes as "skiploads of junk".

To be maintained in its unique state, this fossil will need over £3.5m spent on restoration. Many of the Harpur-Crewe tenantry, who might innocently assume that this Government's enthusiasm for the tenant's right to buy would extend to them, would be passed over into national ownership if the land were to be taken in lieu of tax.

It is clear that the £7.5m needed to endow the abbey and restore it over 10 years could come from the sale of the estate, after tax. But the Calke lobbyists seem to have won the day with this week's Budget. More than £7m over two years will be found to fund the endowment, effectively reimbursing the Revenue for monies foregone over and beyond the £2m which count as the acceptance of Calke and its parkland alone. Hypothecation of revenue is not favoured by the Treasury, but that is what is happening here, in the public support on offer.

I would not be sorry to see Calke Abbey preserved as it is, in principle, although as a Grade I building it could have found other dignified uses at no cost to the taxpayer. But there is something indecent about the timing. Or so I should think if I was living in that vicinity. Especially if I was old and had an arthritic hip or knee-joint. For it was on Budget Day itself that the local health authority decided to recommend the closure of Bretby Orthopaedic Hospital, just three miles from Calke across the Ashby road.

The South Derbyshire Health Authority is having to make savings of £1.5m this year. Smaller hospitals are being closed, their services amalgamated in Derby. In the struggle for survival each hospital struggles desperately to prove its case against others on the hit-list; they do not make common cause against the source of the cuts.

There will be no Lords lobby for Bretby. It is not a unique time capsule. But through its operating theatre, built only two years ago for £700,000, come elderly people, who cannot pay "go private", for surgery that means a new life to them. The waiting list is still 18 months, but the operation ratio is 65 per cent above the regional norm. Much good is done there, without fuss, as it is in the Children's Hospital forever associated in our locality with Leonard Arthur, which was the rival candidate for closure.

So my gorge rises when I hear that capital transfer and estate duties raise little revenue and are morally indefensible, or that it is somehow cussed of the Exchequer to point out that a tax foregone is a resource cost. These are hard times, for harsh choices. Mine would not be between two hospitals serving the special needs of the aged and the very young, but between them and the high cost of preserving a fossil house at public expense. For that is what we are doing.

My friends in the heritage lobby are of course right to be concerned about Calke. But at a time like this you can spend too long pitying that dead plumage, and forget the dying public services, so near in space, so far in time, from the world of the Harpur-Crewes.

The author was Labour MP for Derby, North, 1970-83.

TIMES PAST
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MR REAGAN CLIPS THE DEFICIT

President Reagan has finally come round to accepting that his huge budget deficits are going to be a liability in the election. Having been elected on a promise to balance the budget by 1984 he finds himself facing a deficit of $183.700 million in the current fiscal year and a range of furiously debated forecasts for the end of the decade that rise from $123,000 million to $350.000 million. There is also a growing deficit in visible trade which may reach $100 million this year, costing perhaps two million American jobs, according to Mr Feldstein, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

These trends are manageable in the short term but are building up trouble for the future. Mr Reagan had thought that he could put off dealing with them until after the election. He would give imprecise assurances for the future while temporarily buoyed up by economic recovery and low inflation. However, polls have shown that a majority of voters regard the deficit as a major issue. Sharp disagreements within his own administration have received wide publicity and the Democratic Party has been preparing to exploit the issue to the full. Republicans in Congress have been feeling restive and vulnerable and have pressed Mr Reagan to do something.

The defence budget has become especially controversial, although tax cuts have in fact contributed more to the deficit. Mr Reagan thought he was elected with an overwhelming mandate to raise defence spending dramatically while cutting government spending in almost every other area. Since then public support for such high defence spending has dropped steadily, while criticism of cuts in social spending has increased. In 1980, according to an opinion poll, 71 per cent were in favour of increasing defence spending. By 1982 the figure had dropped to 17 per cent, while 24 per cent were for a decrease and 54 per cent for keeping it steady. Since the level was by then higher than in 1980 there seems to be public support for a substantial defence effort but not for the very large and continuing increases originally envisaged by Mr Reagan – not at any rate at the cost of high interest rates, high deficits and large cuts in welfare spending.

The compromise now reached with congressional Republicans is, in the neat words of the Democratic speaker of the House, Mr O'Neill, "a small concession but a big confession". The figures are less important than the political fact that Mr Reagan has agreed to cut defence spending and increase taxes. If the agreement works out in practice, and if Mr Reagan is elected, the deficit will be reduced by $149,000 million over three years by cutting $43,000 million from domestic spending, $40,000 million from defence spending and increasing tax revenue by $48,000 million through closing loopholes and raising excise taxes on consumer items such as cigarettes. The rest of the savings would come from lower interest payments on the deficit.

This will not turn the situation round even if it comes off, and it will not satisfy the Democrats in an election year, but at this stage it is movement that counts. Mr Reagan is seen to be acknowledging the problem and breaking out of his inhibitions against cutting defence spending and raising taxes. It is a sign of realism, and perhaps also an acknowledgement that he faces a bigger challenge than he expected in the election, especially if Senator Hart, an acknowledged expert on military reform, is his opponent.

PLOUGHING INTO THE BROADS

Halvergate marshes by the Norfolk Broads are the Flanders of the great war between farming interests and the objectives of nature conservation. They have been in contention for years, their drainage and conversion from pasture to plough. The latest push from the farming front, directed at a salient of some 750 acres, has been temporarily checked by the coalition of forces under the generalship of the Broads Authority.

Four landowners, private and institutional, had come forward with a joint scheme for ploughing a block of grazing marsh and setting it in wheat. The traditional grazing practices in the marshes are marginally profitable at best – hence the drive to drain and plough. But they are integral to a landscape that is part of the special character of the Broads, wetland that has been whittled away at an annual rate of 1,200 acres in recent years. As the pastured landscape is lost to the great grain drain, the plant, bird and insect life that it sustains in uncommon variety is reduced in a shrinking habitation. The Broads Authority has rightly sought to head off this latest encroachment of the East Anglian prairie.

The means of doing so, such as they are, are found in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. They are built first on persuasion, which is the right principle from which to start. There is no compulsory restriction there on the agricultural use to which a farmer may put his land, even in the variously designated areas of high landscape value or scientific interest. The main instrument is the management agreement by which the public authority, notably national park boards and the Nature Conservancy, negotiate with the farmer a scheme consonant with conservation or amenity. The farmer may be paid from public funds for profits forgone.

When a grant is witheld in the interest of conservation the farmer must be offered a capital or annual payment to compensate him for the lost opportunity of profit (the farmer may refuse the offer and go ahead without a grant if he prefers). That is fair between farmer and farmer, less fair between farmers and the rest, few of whom are compensated for opportunity and grant lost because of planning restriction covering their property.

Compensation is costly and funds are limited. The cost is especially high in an area like the Norfolk Broads. High on Exmoor compensation for denial of the plough might be valued at £20 an acre a year: in fenny Norfolk £100 an acre. The Broads Authority met ministers in the agriculture and environment departments this week and was heard sympathetically as it explained its need for larger funding until such time as the new statutory authority recommended by the Countryside Commission is set up in its place.

Further, the agriculture minister agreed to examine ways of supporting livestock grazing in the marshes. Part of the problem is the Brussels-induced gap that has opened between the profitability of cereal growing and livestock farming. Until a better balance is struck, it is good sense to do a little weighting of the scales in favour of farming practices that conduce to the enhancement of an environment that deserves it.

Doubts are already heard about the efficacy of the 1981 Act. It is a bit early to judge, though its effect is being closely monitored. There have been shifts in public sentiment even since the Act was before Parliament. The loss to more intensive agriculture (and forestry) of moor, heath, deciduous woods, fen and levels, and the loss of local features of the landscape, special wildlife habitats, hedges, copses, ponds, the nooks and corners of the countryside, is more keenly felt as the pressure on what remains is made manifest. At the same time the long-prevailing priority given to measures to boost agricultural production are less automatically endorsed now that so much of what is produced is surplus to the requirements of the market. These shifts of sentiment would facilitate amendment to strengthen the Act if there were shown to be need for it.

WHO WILL BE MASTER NOW?

Ever since Henry VIII picked John Redman to be the first Master of Trinity College, Cambridge in 1546, the monarch has had the final say in this most glittering of academic preferments. Nowadays, the Queen's role is what Bagehot would have called "dignified" rather than "efficient". The donkey work is done by Mr Catford, the Downing Street Appointments Secretary. The Prime Minister recommends a name to the Queen when Mr Catford has completed his rounds. The front runners have emerged. They are Professor Sir Andrew Huxley and Professor Sir Michael Atiyah, both Trinity men currently pursuing their scholarship elsewhere. If the Fellows of Trinity find their new Master has been chosen for political rather than scholarly reasons, and that No 10 has acted as more than a post-box, there will be a tremendous fuss.

Truly ancient institutions tend to think in centuries where more humdrum organizations think in years. Trinity is no exception. When scholarly nerves begin to tingle at the albeit remote possibility of a displeasing result from the present selection process, their minds fly back, as if it were yesterday, to 1700 and the election to the mastership of the brilliant classical scholar, Richard Bentley (in those pre-Prime Minister days, a commission of bishops advised the sovereign). Bentley ruled the college for 42 years. His mental equipment is legendary. His successor but eleven in the Master's Lodge, GM Trevelyan, said of Bentley's *Dissertation upon the Epistles of Phalaris*; that it was "not only the greatest controversial work of pure learning that has ever been written, but it began a new era in the study of classical antiquities, chronology and philology".

But in college affairs, Bentley by all accounts was unbearable. "For forty years to come", Trevelyan continued, "he kept not only the College but the University simmering and exploding with angry broils, punctuated by rival pamphlets and involving a ceaseless succession of lawsuits, an element which he enjoyed as a fish the water, or rather as a salamander enjoys the fire". Ironically, nineteen years ago the Fellows of Trinity had the chance to avoid such impositions when Mr Harold Wilson offered them the opportunity to come into line with most other Oxford and Cambridge colleges by appointing their own man. The Fellows declined, preferring to maintain the Royal link. The indications are that they remain content with a Regius appointment. With a fellowship of 120 they fear that faction and strife could break out if they formed themselves into an electoral college. The need to receive the Downing Street Appointments Secretary, it seems, induces decorum and at least an embryonic consensus among the senior fellows.

Trinity men resent, no doubt, the attention their confidential business is receiving in the press. They have a point. Their's is a private institution not a public body or government department. Though the efforts made by Professor Glynn, the Vice-Master, to plug leaks is unmistakeably similar to the modus operandi of a Whitehall permament secretary. But the story has a fascinating blend of ingredients – a Royal element, the Prime Minister taking a hand (anything she does being news), plenty of famous names, the cachet of a wealthy and ancient stable of first class intellectual horsepower, the performance of a traditional rite, and a conveniently timed television series in C. P. Snow's *Strangers and Brothers* to alert a wider audience to the passion and politics of picking a Cambridge master. It is far more interesting than who is to be the next Chief Executive of the Property Services Agency.

Credit to the Poles

From Mr Zbigniew Mieczkowski

Sir, Channel 4 ITV presented on March 1 an additional programme to the well-known series *The World at War* in the form of a discussion on the subject of the immeasurable services given to the Allies by the breaking of the German secret code, the Ultra system. This equipment, employed by German High Command, was developed before 1939 and used throughout the war without their knowledge that a special section of British Intelligence could decipher its messages.

Not a mention was made throughout this programme that the decoding of the Ultra system was an achievement of the Polish Intelligence before the war and passed to the British and French Intelligence just before the invasion of Poland. Ronald Lewin, in his book, *Ultra Goes to War*, dedicated "To the Poles who sowed the seed and those who reaped the harvest", is the best possible record of the true happenings.

The Polish contribution to the ultimate victory of the Allied Powers was immense but the programme, *The World at War*, except for a few extracts, persists in ignoring the truth. It is sad that the conspiracy of silence adopted by the Allies in respect of the fate of Poland – a country let down at the moment of final victory – still persists.

Yours faithfully,
ZBIGNIEW MIECZKOWSKI,
Rose Cottage,
Henley Park,
Henley-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gauging impact of the Budget

From Mr J. L. Nicholson

Sir, According to your reporter (March 14), "the differential between [income tax] allowance rises and higher thresholds has the effect of giving more cash to the lower paid at the expense of higher paid taxpayers." Figures published on another page of the same issue show, on the contrary, that the changes in income tax announced in the Budget will benefit those with high incomes more than those with low incomes; while those with incomes which are so low that they pay little or no income tax derive little or no benefit.

But the main feature of the Budget is the shift from direct taxation of incomes to indirect taxation of expenditure. Since income tax is progressive, absorbing a larger proportion of high than of low incomes, while most expenditure taxes – particularly those on beer, cigarettes and hot take-away meals – are regressive or neutral, absorbing if anything a higher proportion of low incomes than of high incomes, the Budget will bring most benefit to those with the highest incomes, who will also gain most from the abolition of the investment income surcharge, and impose most hardship on those with the lowest incomes.

Yours truly,
J. L. NICHOLSON,
53 Frognal, NW3.
March 15.

From Mr Andrew Leigh

Sir, Whilst the majority of the working force of this country are somewhat dazed by the Chancellor's Budget – i.e., their beer and tobacco are up – there are a few of us who I am sure are completely staggered by the short-sightedness of removing the 25 per cent tax concession for those who work overseas for 30 days per annum or more.

The tax concession was an incentive to make a little more tolerable long waits and delays, catching early flights, returning at unsocial hours and separation from our homes and families.

It is obvious to me that whilst the orders are coming in, companies and employees are earning and of course from this the Government will receive extra revenue.

Most of us I am sure will continue, to fly the flag – encouraging those overseas to buy British, but with less enthusiasm knowing that our efforts are not appreciated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and also knowing that our financial rewards will be less than before.

Chancellor Lawson, help those who help you.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW LEIGH,
26 Orchard Road,
Burpham,
Nr Guildford, Surrey.
March 15.

Housing crippled

From Mr Robin Ellison

Sir, Amid the euphoria on the recent Budget proposals, their crippling effect on housing has been overlooked.

In the 1982 Budget the Chancellor introduced capital allowances on assured tenancies. Assured tenancies were the way (approved by all parties) in which the present distortions in the rented housing market were to be overcome.

Assured tenancies in themselves, so far for many reasons, have made little progress. Coupled with capital allowances, however, there was a real possibility that the rented sector could make a serious contribution to solving part of the horrific housing problems foreseen over the next decade by the Housing Research Centre and the Association of Metropolitan Authorities in their statements last week.

The assured tenancy scheme in any event was to end by 1987; a tremendous planning effort had been undertaken by many organisations in the housing field, all prompted by the 1982 Finance Act. These plans were just about to reach fruition, and would have made a significant contribution to the relief of housing stress in inner cities, and released land currently held by local authorities, which is otherwise "blighted".

It does not encourage fresh initatives in the housing field when a long-term restructuring of housing finance, provided in one Finance Act, is reversed by almost the next, perhaps by an oversight.

Assured tenancies, coupled with capital allowances, for the first time made available attractive and marketable housing to council house tenants and others.

No doubt the housing organisations, the local authorities, the Departent of the Environment and other interested bodies will be taking steps to try to persuade the House that long-term legislation on long-term housing finance should last more then a year or two.

Yours sincerely,
ROBIN ELLISON,
Finance for Housing,
Stationers Hall Court,
30/32 Ludgate Hill, EC4.
March 15.

Why miners resist 'butchery' in pits

From Mr T. D. R. Harrison

Sir, Your editorial of March 13 raises some interesting points on the growing dispute in the coal mining industry. You place great emphasis on the role of the NEC and the President of the NUM as being responsible for this action. This ignores the fact that Yorkshire, after being informed of the closure of Colton-Wood and having a ballot vote of their members of over 80 per cent against pit closures, called for strike action by its members.

The Board were well aware of the consequences of their decisions. Yorkshire, with 58,000 men, could well fight against contraction on its own with the industrial clout that it can wield. Other miners see that this confrontation is only the forerunner to what will happen (according to Mr McGregor) in their own area or pit. Could we really be expected to take a free ride?

The London *Standard* on February 8 informed Kent miners that 1,244 jobs were to go with the loss of two pits out of three. One of the reasons quoted was the run down of the steel industry under the chairmanship of Mr McGregor, 1980-83. We still await information about our future.

This contraction follows the loss of 450 redundancies last year and the total ban on recruitment prevailing for some 12 months. Appointment of Mr McGregor and the tone of the Parliamentary debate on March 13 confirmed our worst fears.

Of course our industry produces men capable of top positions; they would most likely insist on being their own men and fighting for their industry.

Why don't the Government and employers devote more time to revitalising these isolated communities when the economic reason for their being is taken away, as your editorial suggests? That is the basic reason for the present turmoil. Docks, shipbuilding, steel, cotton and pits all have experienced this "butchery", to quote your editorial.

Everyone I have spoken to over many years has accepted that structured unemployment would occur. We would ameliorate this by early retirement, a shorter working week, increased holidays and leisure time, expansion of education and the ability of workers to take time off to attend universities, etc.

What happened to the grand debate?

People in power have to realise that miners, as proud working men, conservative in nature, are saying to their leaders that they would rather fight and lose than accept the cynical manipulation that would put them into the great army of the unemployed.

Yours faithfully,
T. D. R. HARRISON, Secretary,
Betteshanger Branch,
National Union of Mineworkers,
37 Arthur Road,
Deal,
Kent.
March 14.

Erring clergy

From Mr J. W. Howard and Mr E. R. Ormerod

Sir, Peter Evans (feature, March 7) correctly states that the Bishop of Chichester used his discretion under section 23 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure, 1963, to stop a case going forward for trial in a consistory court. But this was not a straightforward case; there are some extraordinary features of it which ought to be mentioned and which raise questions of immense importance both to anglicans and to those who deplore avoidable injustice.

First, the rector not only imposed the ban by telephone, but next day he refused the Sacrament at the altar rail to one of the ladies *after the confession and absolution*. Furthermore, he has consistently refused to explain to them why he imposed the ban. He never went to see them. Both were members of the PCC and one was a lay reader.

Second, at the insistence of the suffragan bishop, the rector removed the ban on one of the ladies by letter which accused her of unspecified "clandestine activities" and threatened to ban her again if necessary; to the other (the lay reader) he did *not* directly withdraw the ban and accused her of "disturbing the faithful" without specifying when or where.

Third, the Bishop of Chichester not only gave a decision under the Measure (all he is required to do) but claimed that the rector had acted "legally" and, in support, quoted an outdated rubric. In fact, the only way a priest can now, on his own, refuse the Sacrament is in circumstances of "grave and immediate scandal to the *congregation*".

The bishop's claim was based on information given to him in private by the rector: this information was, and still is, unknown to the ladies and was quite untested for veracity through defence and cross-examination. *Audi alteram partem.*

By claiming "legality" the bishop has fostered rumours of the most scurrilous kind as to what the ladies must have done in order to deserve this most severe of spiritual punishments.

Can you doubt, Sir, that these events have caused grave disquiet in the parish and further afield, particularly as there is no appeal under Church law against the bishop's decision?

Having declared the bans to be "legal" the bishop could not possibly, of course, have sent the case for trial, but how can he claim "legality" for such aberrant, unexplained, uncharitable actions against two people of the highest character?

The uncovering of the truth must greatly be preferred to the storm of controversies and rumours which has been aroused by this particular exercise of discretion.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HOWARD,
E. R. ORMEROD,
Appletree Cottage,
Staplecross,
Robertsbridge,
Sussex.

A generous gesture

From Lord and Lady Soames

Sir, May we through your columns draw attention to a generous and elegant gesture: there has recently been placed in the National Gallery, alongside works by Monet and Renoir, a family portrait of Madame André Wormser and her children painted by Edouard Vuillard in the 1920s.

The picture was presented by "an Officer of General de Gaulle's Free French Navy in grateful remembrance of the years 1940-45". That officer, one of the children in the picture, is now the eminent Frenchman, former Governor of the Bank of France, Monsieur Olivier Wormser.

It is refreshing in days when Anglo/French relations seem to be all too often highlighted by British lorries being hijacked on French roads, by British hooligans tearing Paris apart, and by the British and French governments being locked in controversy about milk and money, to recall that there are other, brighter, and we believe, stronger strands in the tangled skein of friendship and mutual interest of both our countries.

Yours faithfully,
SOAMES,
MARY SOAMES,
7 St Albans Mansion,
Kensington Court Place, W8.

Rights in Antarctica

From Mr Evan Luard

Sir, None of the letters you have published about the Antarctic have answered the main question I raised in my letter of February 4: what is the legal right by which the 16 treaty Powers are empowered to make rules about the uses made of Antarctic resources?

Sir Donald Logan (February 23) says that the treaty Powers "are not disposing of resources and are not asserting exclusive rights to anything"; their aim is only "to impose restrictions on their own conduct".

He would no doubt argue that it is such restraint, by the Powers most likely to exploit the resources, that is what is most needed. There are three difficulties about this argument.

First, a regime so narrowly based cannot be enduring. Other states will soon be in a position to exploit (perhaps to a company registered in their territory). Because they could not be bound by a treaty formed by a few states, they could quite legally defy it and so make it unworkable.

The second difficulty is that, precisely because the nations that are parties to the treaty include those that are most interested in mineral exploitation (a number have been undertaking exploration in the last three or four years), they may decide on a regime that is *more* liberal and *more* permissive of exploitation than most of the international community, including those less self-interested, believe to be prudent, with grave risks to the Antarctic environment.

The third difficulty is more fundamental. The thesis that Sir Donald Logan (and, I believe, the British Government) put forward – that the parties are merely discussing various voluntary restrictions on their own activities – implies that there exists otherwise a right of free exploitation.

This is not a view that a large number of countries are likely to accept, if only for the reason that it implies that the riches of the region will go to those states that are technically best equipped to exploit them. And it is one that could leave the way open to a dangerous scramble for these resources, which agreement among a few states could not possibly contain, since any company that escaped their jurisdiction would be under no obligation to observe it.

Only a genuinely international regime, in other words, would have the stability and the comprehensiveness that is the essential condition of a successful Antarctic regime.

Yours faithfully,
EVAN LUARD,
35 Observatory Street,
Oxford.

Countryside heritage

From Mr Roger Parker-Jervis

Sir, Because there are forecasts of a world timber shortage by the year 2025, which contrast with Mr Richard Grove's view (March 7) of present surplus, conifer planting in the uplands encouraged by fiscal reliefs and grants is being pursued enthusiastically. Big money and the influence of city institutions are being drawn into this forestry development.

Conversely, as just one example, there are 33,000 acres of woodland in the Chilterns area of outstanding natural beauty where beech trees predominate, but around one third of them are dead or dying in many conspicuous woods and every gale takes its toll.

As a result of capital taxation the resources of woodland owners who have traditionally nurtured Britain's hardwoods have diminished and, faced with high replanting costs, they cannot see how to bridge the 100-year financial gap until returns come from timber. Meanwhile, their trees grow geriatric; silvicultural choices become fewer, more drastic and more costly: or short rotation softwoods are the alternative.

If broadleaves, beloved by all, are to be sustained it is justifiable to claim that they should receive a fairer share of the Treasury's allocation to forestry. This claim is viewed warily in Edinburgh, now forestry's political headquarters, because with investment attracted overwhelmingly to conifers and with the resulting profits, the political scales have tilted in favour of softwoods satisfactorily.

Subsidies for agriculture and forestry are under review and it is timely that the urgent need to cherish Britain's broadleaved trees is noted and a solution found before it is too late.

Yours faithfully,
R PARKER-JERVIS, Chairman,
Chilterns Standing Conference,
County Hall,
Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire.
March 7.

When prison terms induce despair

From the Director of The Howard League

Sir, The death of David Martin at Parkhurst Prison on Tuesday night (March 13) serves to illustrate the appalling psychological impact resulting from the imposition of long terms of imprisonment.

The circumstances leading to Mr Martin's conviction and sentence received wide publicity in the press. As with all sentenced prisoners, a silence followed his departure from the courtroom.

Any prison system has to reflect the fact that its institutions symbolise hopelessness, remitted only by the possibility of eventual release. For someone in Mr Martin's position that possibility has all but disappeared since the Home Secretary's new proposals removing the possibility of parole to those sentenced to five years or more for offences involving fireams.

It is not relevant whether or not Mr Martin was a dangerous man who deserved the sentence imposed upon him. That may or may not be the case – the judge clearly made his decision. What does matter is that the British prison system engenders despair which will almost inevitably result in violence, occasionally death.

Such a system loses its own credibility as a humanitarian means of responding to crime.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID E. S. JENKINS, Director,
The Howard League,
322 Kennington Park Road, SE11.
March 15.

Farm Bill changes

From Mr Michael Astbury

Sir, The Agricultural Holdings Bill, as amended in the House of Lords, is to be considered by Commons Committee on March 23. The provisions of the Bill are welcomed by my society save only in one important matter. Clause 8 seeks to transfer to an elected officer of a single professional body certain functions including the appointment of arbitrators, which functions have hitherto been exercised by the minister.

It is understood that this transfer was not sought by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors but by the minister on grounds of cost alone.

Members of that institution, like those of my society, frequently represent one or other of the parties in arbitration proceedings arising on rent review and indeed in other cases are appointed as arbitrators to resolve those same disputes. In this latter capacity they do so pursuant to a nomination by the minister.

It is not in doubt that the elected officer of the institution, acting as a nominating authority, can demonstrate both independence and impartiality but, for the sake of the agricultural industry and the continuance of good relations which now exist between agricultural landlords and tenants, there are many in that industry who deem it essential that the apparent independence of the minister in appointing arbitrators be retained – if cost is to be the sole criterion the minister is already aware that the industry would not be averse to the introduction of a charge for this service.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ASTBURY, Secretary,
The Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers,
3 Cadogan Gate, SW1.

Account disclosure

From Mr Gershon Ellenbogen

Sir, With all due respect to my former teacher, Professor Glanville Williams, I must question his argument (March 15) that if A pays money into B's bank account without his knowledge no deception is involved.

Payment in such circumstances can only properly be made with the implied consent of the payee. If it is made from an improper motive consent cannot be implied and the payment may then constitute a false representation as to such consent.

I am, etc,
GERSHON ELLENBOGEN,
2 Gray's Inn Square, WC1
March 15.

Ringside views

From Mrs Dinah Quilter

Sir, Mr Cotterell (March 14) makes one big mistake, as so many others do. It is impossible to compare boxing with other sports.

The *object* of rugby is to score points; any injury sustained is accidental (except in dirty play). The *object* of high-diving is to make a perfect entry into the water; hitting the bottom is most unlucky. The *object* of soccer players is to get the ball into the net; any injury to the head in so doing is very unfortunate; whereas the *object* of boxing is to hit your opponent so hard on the head that he is rendered unconscious.

This cannot be right and certainly in no way can be called a sport. Yes, a man has a choice, but it must be the lure of big box-office receipts that drives him on. No one can really enjoy being knocked out or even knocked about.

Yours faithfully,
DINAH QUILTER,
4 Monks Manor Drive,
Lincoln.
March 14.

From Mr A. S. Graham

Sir, After his long and successful career in boxing, whoever dares to tell Henry Cooper that his brain is damaged should be ready to duck.

Yours faithfully,
A. S. GRAHAM,
Huntley,
Ticehurst,
Wadhurst,
Sussex.
March 14.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 16: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Colwyn Bay Station in the Royal Train this morning to visit Clwyd and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Clwyd (Colonel J. Ellis Evans).

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh then drove to the new Territorial Army Centre of the 3rd (TA) Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers and, having been received with a Royal Salute, The Queen inspected a Guard of Honour, under the command of Major J. M. Stephens.

After the Inspection, Her Majesty unveiled a commemorative plaque and, with His Royal Highness, toured the Centre, escorted by the Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. Humphreys-Evans).

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh drove to Colwyn Bay Civic Centre and were received by the Mayor (Councillor Mrs V. M. Percival) and the Chief Executive of Colwyn Borough Council (Mr Oscar Morris).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness subsequently attended a Service of Thanksgiving in St Asaph Cathedral and were received on arrival by the Bishop of Asaph (the Right Reverend Alwyn Rice-Jones) and the Dean (the Very Reverend Raymond Renowden).

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visited Ruthin School on the occasion of the 700th Anniversary of its Foundation.

Her Majesty, with His Royal Highness, honoured the Chairman of the Governors (Mr M. D. Harvey) with her presence at luncheon and, afterwards, escorted by the Headmaster (Mr A. S. Hill), toured the School.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh visited Delyn House, Flint and having been received by the Mayor of Flint (Councillor Darrell Evans), Her Majesty unveiled a commemorative plaque and opened Delyn House.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness later left Hawarden Airport in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Right Hon Nicholas Edwards, MP (Secretary of State for Wales), the Countess of Airlie, Sir William Heseltine and Major Hugh Lindsay were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 16: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning received the Lord Warden of the Stannaries (the Lord Franks) at Kensington Palace.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 16: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Army Medical Corps, this afternoon visited the British Military Hospital in Munster.

Her Majesty travelled to Germany in an Aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston, Major Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bt and Captain the Hon Jeremy Stopford were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE, ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 16: The Duke and Duchess of Kent were guests of honour at a Dinner of the Norfolk Lieutenancy which was held at Blickling Hall, Aylsham.

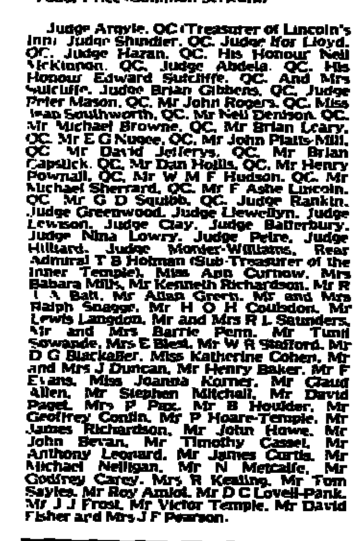
Sir Richard Buckley and Mrs David Napier were in attendance.

Memorial services

Judge Buzzard
A memorial service for Judge John Huxley Buzzard was held at the Temple Church on Thursday. The Master of the Temple officiated. Lord Rawlinson of Ewell, QC, Treasurer of the Inner Temple, read the lesson and Master M. D. L. Worsley gave an address. Among those present were:

Mrs Buzzard (widow), Mr and Mr Christopher Buzzard (son and daughter-in-law), Mr Thomas Buzzard (son), Miss Phylida Buzzard (daughter), Commander and Mrs William Arworth, Miss Angela Buzzard, Mr and Mrs R A Macpherson

Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC, Lord Justice Griffiths (President of the Senate of the Inns of Court and the Bar), Lord Justice O'Connor, Lord Justice Stephenson, Sir Bernard Waley-Cohen, Bt, Mr Justice Farquharson, Mr Justice Beldam, Mr Justice French, Sir Rawden Temple, QC, Sir Basil Nield, Sir George Thalben-Ball, Sir Ashton Roskill, QC, Judge Sir James Miskin, QC (Recorder of London), Judge Tudor Price (Common Serjeant)



Judge Argyle, QC (Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn), Judge Shindler, QC, Judge Ifor Lloyd, QC, Judge Haran, QC, His Honour Neil McKinnon, QC, Judge Abdela, QC, His Honour Edward Sutcliffe, QC, and Mrs Sutcliffe, Judge Brian Gibbens, QC, Judge Peter Mason, QC, Mr John Rogers, QC, Miss Jean Southworth, QC, Mr Neil Denison, QC, Mr Michael Browne, QC, Mr Brian Leary, QC, Mr E G Nugee, QC, Mr John Platts-Mills, QC, Mr David Jeffreys, QC, Mr Brian Capstick, QC, Mr Dan Hollis, QC, Mr Henry Pownall, QC, Mr W M F Hudson, QC, Mr Michael Sherrard, QC, Mr F Ashe Lincoln, QC, Mr G D Squibb, QC, Judge Rankin, Judge Greenwood, Judge Llewellyn, Judge Lewison, Judge Clay, Judge Batterbury, Judge Nina Lowry, Judge Petre, Judge Hilliard, Judge Monier-Williams, Rear Admiral T B Holman (Sub-Treasurer of the Inner Temple), Miss Ann Curnow, Mrs Babara Mills, Mr Kenneth Richardson, Mr R I A Batt, Mr Allan Green, Mr and Mrs Ralph Snagge, Mr H O H Coulsdon, Mr Lewis Langdon, Mr and Mrs R L Saunders, Mr and Mrs Barrie Penn, Mr Tunji Sowande, Mrs E Blest, Mr W R Stafford, Mr D G Blackaller, Miss Katherine Cohen, Mr and Mrs J Duncan, Mr Henry Baker, Mr F Evans, Miss Joanna Korner, Mr Claud Allen, Mr Stephen Mitchell, Mr David Paget, Mrs P Pipe, Mr B Houlder, Mr Geoffrey Conlin, Mr P Hoare-Temple, Mr James Richardson, Mr John Howe, Mr John Bevan, Mr Timothy Cassel, Mr Anthony Leonard, Mr James Curtis, Mr Michael Nelligan, Mr N Metcalfe, Mr Godfrey Carey, Mrs R Kealing, Mr Tom Sayles, Mr Roy Amlot, Mr D C Lovell-Pank, Mr J J Frost, Mr Victor Temple, Mr David Fisher and Mrs J F Pearson.

Mr G F Bell
A memorial service for Mr Geoffrey Foxall Bell was held in the Chapel of St Michael, Highgate School yesterday. The Headmaster of Highgate School, the Headmaster of Trent College and Mr Christopher Bell took part in the service which was conducted by the Rev R P Stone, Chaplain of Highgate School. An address was given by Sir Patrick Neill, QC, Warden of All Souls College, Oxford. Also present and robed were the Rev P G S Harrison, the Rev K N J Loveless, the Rev R A McDowall and the Rev R H Nokes. Others present included:

Mrs G Bell (widow), Colonel and Mrs R Bell (son and daughter-in-law), Miss Sally Bell (grand-daughter), Mrs N Craig (sister), Mr and Mrs A Craig, Mrs J West, Lady Evershed.

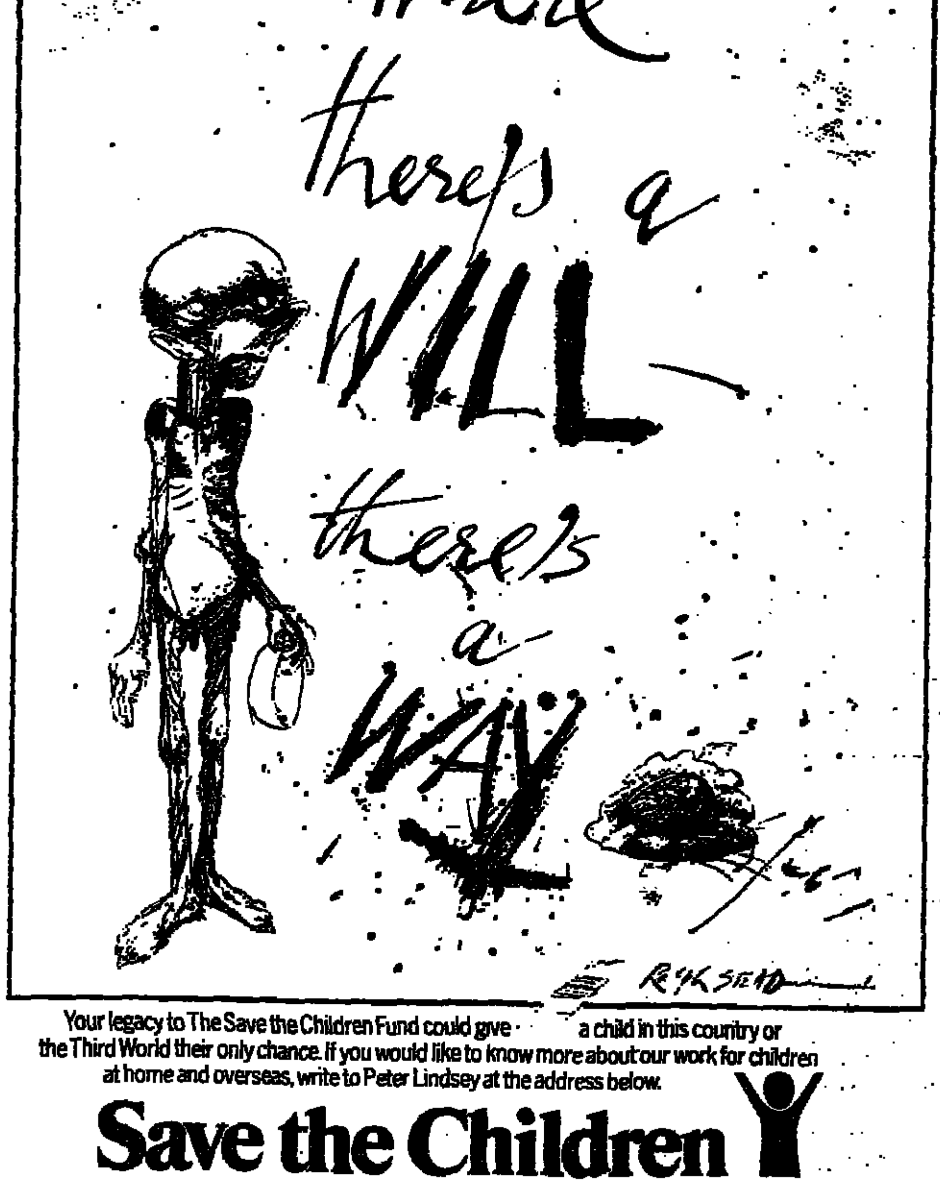
Mr D G Richards (chairman of the governors, Highgate School), Sir Robert Clark and Mr J S Maclure (governor) and Mrs Maclure, Mr J M A Talbot (clerk to the governors), Lieutenant Commander J K Gray (Bursar of Highgate School), the Hon Mrs Richard Lyttleton, Mrs R C Giles, the Master of Highgate Junior School and Mrs A S Fox, Mr and Mrs J A Coombs, Sir Alan and Lady Neale, Mr and Mrs R le G Hetherington, Mr and Mrs K R H Johnston, Mr and Mrs A J F Doulton, Mr and Mrs E Sherwin, Mr C R Topham, Mr and Mrs N P Butcher, Mr T G Mallinson and Mr and Mrs G C Pether.

Dr P. J. Dean
A memorial service for Dr Paul Jeremy Dean was held at Great Malvern Priory Church yesterday. Canon W. N. Richards officiated and gave an address and the lessons were read by John McDonald and Dr David Robbins. Dr Christopher Baynham, Director of the Royal Signals and Research Establishment, Malvern, read tributes. Those present included representatives of Nottingham University and the Royal Society.

Birthdays

TODAY: Sir Donald Barron, 63; Lady (Megan) Bull, 62; Mr Douglas Byng, 91; Miss Leslie-Ann Down, 30; Vice-Admiral Sir Donald Gibson, 68; Lord Granville-West, 80; Major-General Sir Edmund Hakewill Smith, 88; the Rev J. P. Haldane-Stevenson, 74; Sir Arthur Hockaday, 58; Baroness Hornsby-Smith, 70; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Edmond Joly de Lotbinière, 81; Mr Robin Knox-Johnson, 45; the Earl of Lauderdale, 73; Professor John Lill, 40; Mrs P. M. Lively, 51; Mr Rudolf Nureyev, 45; Sir Patrick Reilly, 75; Dr Raymond Rickett, 57; Mr Patrick Sergeant, 60; Dr David Stafford-Clark, 68.

TOMORROW: Mr E. C. de Rougemont, 81; Mr Pat Eddery, 32; Major-General C. L. Firbank, 81; Sir William Fraser, 66; Mr Patrick Kavanagh, 61; Sir Percy Kent, 71; Sir Robin McAlpine, 78; Professor Sir Gordon Robson, 63; Mr Alan Sapper, 53; the Hon John Silkin, MP, 61; Mr Keith Stock, 27; Lord Strathspey, 72.



Science and religion

Evolving theories about evolution

In recent years scientists have been arguing over the correctness of Darwin's Theory of Evolution by Natural Selection. Good news for creationists? Hardly. The disagreements have not been over whether evolution has occurred; merely about how it has taken place. Whatever the outcome, there is no comfort in such disputes for those who insist on a literalistic interpretation of Genesis.

So, why do people continue to defend that interpretation? Clearly they believe they are defending the original teaching of the Bible. But in that case how do we account for the following statement:

"In the beginning were created only germs or causes of the forms of life which were afterwards to be developed in gradual course."

No, this was not said by Darwin: those are the words of St Augustine. Living 1,400 years before Darwin, Augustine was not alone in his belief in evolution: several of the Early Church leaders were agreed that Genesis was no literalistic account of our origins.

The literal interpretation of Genesis, the view defended by creationists, is, in fact, of comparatively recent origin. It came into prominence in the sixteenth century during the turmoil of the Reformation. The nineteenth century controversy over evolution, therefore, merely highlighted the need to return to the original way of approaching those writings.

So if Genesis is not to be regarded as scientific theory, how is it to be read? The early chapters are examples of myth. "Myth" today means something that is untrue; but originally it referred to ancient stories embodying profound wisdom, philosophy written as history. The Adam and Eve story is one of those myths. As such it contains much insight into the condition of man.

Here we find thoughts on the nature of the relationship between man and God, and between man and his environment; thoughts on the nature of marriage. Here also is to be found the source of the doctrine of original sin: the claim that from the moment of our conception we are alienated from God and his goodness; we have built into us a bias towards pursuing our own selfish interests, rather than centring our lives upon God.

Such are the matters with which Genesis deals: it makes no claim to scientific theorizing, and so has no quarrel with Darwin. On the contrary, it can be argued that the biblical idea of original sin even gains a measure of support from the theory of evolution.

Consider: Animals often have to behave selfishly, and to the detriment of others, if they are to survive.

Darwin's theory of evolution says not only that animals are in selfish competition with one another, but that some animals do better in that competition.

Provided that the difference between successful and unsuccessful competitors is genetic in origin, then over the generations the selfish, successful competitors will flourish at the expense of their less successful competitors.

As evolved animals we must expect that our behaviour has also been shaped by natural selection, behaviour directed in the main towards self-interest or the needs of our immediate relations.

Thus, Genesis and evolution alike require man's basic tendency to be one in which he places himself at the centre of his world. Evolution provides us for the first time with a rational understanding of the source of original sin.

The doctrine of original sin has never been popular. Not unnaturally we would rather believe ourselves to be inherently good. But man now stands at a point in history where, as never before, his continuing survival demands that he face up to the reality of his basic nature. Like a moth drawn to a flame by an inner compulsion it does not understand, man is impelling himself to nuclear holocaust.

Unlike the moth, however, he at least is able to recognize the evolutionary origins and nature of his behaviour. That acknowledgement could be the first step towards a solution. But what solution?

The Bible holds that where sin is concerned, man has no power of himself to help himself, he cannot go it alone. He must invoke the help of God. Turning to God includes, among other things, embracing Christ's command to love one's enemies, an injunction that runs entirely counter to the main thrust of natural selection.

Difficult certainly. But, if the Bible is right, any measure, whether based on negotiation or demonstration, disarmament or deterrence, unilateralism or multilateralism, any measure that does not integrally incorporate within it reconciliation with God, and thereby with one's fellowman ultimately will not suffice

Russell Stannard
Professor of Physics, Open University

Cranwell graduation

Air Vice-Marshal L. W. F. Wheeler, RAF, Director General RAF Personal Services, was the reviewing officer when 141 officers of No 74 Initial Officer Training Course graduated from the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell, on Thursday.

The Sword of Merit: Flying Officer S J Ainsworth BSc.
The Sash of Merit: Pilot Officer S M Gordon BSc WRAF.
The Hennessy Trophy Philip Sassoon Memorial Prize: Acting Pilot Officer L M Oliveira WRAF
The British Aircraft Corporation Trophy: Acting Pilot Officer S A Hayward.

General Duties Branch (Pilot): Flight Lts M W G Hopkins MA, A MacAngus BSc; Flying Officers P A Bell BSc, R J Brownlow BSc, N S Charnley BSc, A D Corbett BSc, D Dowdeswell BSc, L A Fox BSc, A G Gordon BA, S R Hawkins BSc, D N Longhurst BSc, N Meadows BSc, J M Phillipson BA, A D Reed BSc, R A C Simpson BSc, P E Suren BA, R S E Young BSc; Pilot Officers M H Burman BSc, R E Colehan BA, N A J Connor BSc, M B Z De Ferranti BSc, N G Jackson BSc, M R Leonczek BSc, P D Reid BSc, A P Triccas, C B Wills BSc, M D Wood BComm; Acting Pilot Officers N R Bell, C A Birchall, A D Bishop, M J Bracken, M A Briscoe, N Butterworth, S J Coughlan, I W Craven, A G Dalton, N J Fragel, B J Forster, A J Gent, C D E Harding, J P Hancock, N J Hawes, S A Hayward, J A Higgins, S D Hochkins, P J Jenkin, C D Jepson, R R Jones, G D C London, T C Llewellyn Jones, R J Mann, S E Metcalfe, I P Paterson, N A J Pearson, D G W Reed, F S Richardson, M J Ridley, P S Rose, A D Severs, I F Thyng, M Tudno-Jones, S A Wall

GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH (Navigator): Flying Officer R S James; Pilot Officer I A Prince BA; Acting Pilot Officers A J Huntly, J C Prescott, T D Robinson.
GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH (Ground) – Fighter Control: Pilot Officers G Bonser BSc, M A Casey, A M Chattaway BA, J Perry BA, M S Wood BA; Acting Pilot Officers K J Agnew WRAF, C Benn, R M Burr, A S Jones, H W Jones, A R Mountain, L M Oliveira WRAF, A R Park, K S Sadler WRAF, J C E Smith-Pearse WRAF, P F Tuite, J M R Waring.
GENERAL DUTIES BRANCH (Ground) – Air Traffic Control: Flying Officers M J Beresford; Pilot Officers S M Gordon BSc WRAF, L McErlean BSc; Acting Pilot Officers J C Bessell, C A Henley WRAF, G J Turner, M F Woodward.
ENGINEERING BRANCH: Flying Officers J M Harron BSc WRAF, M E Hepworth, B S Izard BSc, T S Liett, A Rawal BSc, P K Roberts, S W Watson; Pilot Officers J R Greenwood BSc, M Lomas, K J Maloney, D G Marson BSc WRAF, J C Rigby BSc, D P P Scott.
SUPPLY BRANCH: Flying Officers: S J Ainsworth BSc, M B A Ferrill BSc, K Thistlethwaite; Pilot Officers: S Collings WRAF, J A Craib BSc, P J Flippant BA, P M Gough; Acting Pilot Officers: M K Dunn, M S Ford MSc, S P Harvey, F G Kerr, J W Organ, A Simmonds, J J Summers.
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH (Secretarial): Flying Officers: A W Walsh, M A Williams; Pilot Officers: D K Doonan BSc, I M McGregor MA, N J Over BSc, J P Slade MA; Acting Pilot Officers: N J Williams, A J Hunter WRAF.
ADMINISTRATION BRANCH (Education): Flight Lt D Roberts; Flying Officers: P O H Danner BA Cert Ed, H Flatt BSc WRAF, J R Mitchell, P Preston BEd, C McK Anderson BA WRAF, C C Ashton BA, N J Cox BSc, S Hobbs BEd, M Hudson BA WRAF, S J Machon BSc WRAF.
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH (Catering): Flying Officers: J A N Donnelly BA, D T Robinson.
SECURITY BRANCH (Provost): Flying Officers: J B Clements, R Miller.

Ewing medal

The 1984 James Alfred Ewing Medal is being awarded to Sir Alan Muir Wood, FRS.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr G. O. S. Andrews and Miss H. E. Brooks
The engagement is announced between Giles, elder son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs J. L. S. Andrews, of Glebe House, Crawley, near Winchester, Hampshire, and Helen, only daughter of Mr and Mrs E. C. Brooks, of Elham, Kent, and Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies.

Mr A. S. C. Boyle and Miss C. Delf
The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs G. Boyle, of Allerton, West Yorkshire, and Clare, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs R. J. Delf, of St Martins Priory, Richmond, North Yorkshire.

Mr S. R. Putt and Miss J. T. Redvers
The engagement is announced between Simon Robert, son of the late Mr R. P. Putt and of Mrs J. M. Putt, of Sidford, Devon, and Jacqueline Tamsyn, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Redvers, of Honiton, Devon.

Mr H. M. Davies and Miss R. F. Rowland
The engagement is announced between Howard, younger son of Mr and Mrs F. I. Davies, of Frinton-on-sea, Essex, and Rachel, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs A. F. Rowland, of South Bend, Indiana, United States.

Mr C. R. N. Deakin and Miss S. E. Dutton
The engagement is announced between Charles, elder son of Mr and Mrs I. T. N. Deakin, of Rickinghall Inferior, Suffolk, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs K. E. Dutton, of Tadworth, Surrey.

The Rev Dr C. M. Dent and Miss V. M. Linney
The marriage will take place at New College, Oxford today between Christopher, only son of the Rev A. and Mrs Dent, of Burcot, Worcestershire, and Vanessa, only daughter of Mrs Sylvia M. Linney, of Hove, Sussex.

Mr J. C. Pennington, RE, and Miss D. M. P. Murphy
The engagement is announced between James Pennington, Royal Engineers, eldest son of Mr J. W. E. Pennington and the late Mrs E. Pennington, and stepson of Mrs J. W. E. Pennington, Great Chesterford, Essex, and Desiree, second daughter of the Rev J. G. M. W. and Mrs Murphy, Sandringham Rectory, Norfolk.

Mr B. W. Hill and Miss C. J. Macpherson
The engagment is announced between Burke Winfield, son of Mr R. O. Hill, of Toronto, and Mrs C. Hill, of Vancouver, Canada, and Celia June, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs W. D. Macpherson, of London SW7.

Mr P. C. O'Brien and Miss E. A. Kempner
The engagement is announced between Peter Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Mark O'Brien, of Sale, Cheshire, and Elizabeth Ann, daughter of Professor and Mrs Thomas Kempner, of Greenlands, Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire.

Mr J. B. Comerford and Miss S. D. Gray
The engagement is announced between Joe, son of Mr and Mrs B. K. Comerford, of Bury, Lancashire, and Sarah, daughter of Dr and Mrs E. D. Gray, of Manchester.

Mr D. M. Warren and Miss G. A. Davies
The engagement is announced between David Maxwell, son of Mr and Mrs Phillip Warren, of Cowbridge, South Glamorgan, and Giselle Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Glyn Davies, of Radyr, South Glamorgan.

Marriage

Mr C. R. S. Hardie and Miss M. A. Hodgson
The marriage took place yesterday at Chelsea Old Church, London, SW3, of Mr Christopher Hardie, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Hardie, of Wimbledon, SW19, and Miss Mary-Anne Hodgson, only daughter of Mr and Mrs William Hodgson, of Tresco, Isles of Scilly. The Rev C.E. Leighton Thomson officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Tessa Ringrose, Helen Shelley, Annabella Hurst–Brown and William Hardie. Mr Simon Polito was best man.

A reception was held at the Hurlingham Club, and the honeymoon will be spent in France.

Meeting

Fellowship Engineering
The Duke of Kent was guest of honour at the annual general meeting of the fellowship of Engineering which was held, with the president, Viscount Caldecote, in the chair, on March 15 in London.

The main business undertaken was the consideration of the annual report, the annual accounts and the election of new Fellows. After the formal business, Professor E A Ash introduced a paper on "Training in Engineering Applications – Finniston Revisited".

Luncheons

West India Committee
The West India Committee were hosts at a luncheon given for Mr Hudson Tannis, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism for St Vincent and the Grenadines, at Dukes Hotel yesterday. Mr Stuart Paton, chairman of the committee, presided and among those present were the High Commissioners for St Vincent, Dominica and Belize.

HM Government
Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon given at 1 Carlton Gardens on Thursday in Honour of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Ireland, Mr Peter Barry.

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister was host at a luncheon given yesterday at 10 Downing Street in honour of M Gaston Thorn. The other guests were:
M Emile Noel, M Alexander Schaub, M C Pirzio-Biroli, Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP, Sir Michael Butler, Mr David Williamson and Mr John Coles.

Dinners

Institution of Chemical Engineers
The annual dinner of the Institution of Chemical Engineers was held yesterday at the Savoy Hotel. Mr B. F. Street, president, and council welcomed as principal guests and speakers the Rector of Imperial College of Science and Technology, Lord Flowers, and the Chairman of the National Coal Board, Mr Ian MacGregor.

Norfolk Lieutenancy
The Duke and Duchess of Kent were the principal guests at a dinner of the Norfolk Lieutenancy held last night at Blickling Hall, Aylsham. The Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk, Mr Timothy Colman, presided.

HM Government
The Hon George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, was last night host at a dinner at 6 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh, given for the Scottish Industrial Development Advisory Board.

Imperial College Industrial Society
The Imperial College Industrial Society held its annual dinner at the Cumberland Hotel last night in honour of the outgoing chairman, Mr C. Day. Mr T. Bird, chairman-elect, presided and other guests included Mr P. Bosson, Mr D. Proctor and Mr J. Ward.

Old Lerpoolian Society
The annual dinner of the London Branch of the Old Lerpoolian Society was held last night at the Atheneum. Dr D Woodings presided. Mr C F Stell, who was both host and speaker, proposed the toast to Liverpool College. The reply was given by the headmaster, Mr R V Haygarth.

Dramatists' Club
Lord Mancroft, Sir Michael Hordern, Mr Richard Briers and Mr Paul Eddington were the guests at a dinner held last night at the Garrick Club to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Dramatists' Club. Sir Ronald Millar, president of the club, was in the chair.

Science report

Satellite to be repaired on board Challenger

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The final rehearsals have been conducted for a unique operation which United States astronauts will carry out in space in three week's time.

The aim is to retrieve a £150m scientific satellite, known as the Solar Maximum Mission, which blew a fuse while making observations of the Sun. It will be repaired in orbit and returned into space to complete its observations.

The recovery is the main job to be done by the crew of the US space shuttle, Challenger, which begins its next flight on April 6.

One of the youngest astronauts in the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, George Nelson, aged 33, will make the space walk.

The capture and repair have been practised for months down to the tiniest detail in underwater tanks and flight simulators. A crucial part of the tests included the spectacular trials of the jet-controlled backpack which allowed astronauts to manoeuvre in orbit on the shuttle's last flight.

The Solar Maximum Satellite was launched on February 13, 1980, with a camera and electronic analysers to probe the mysterious storms and explosions that disrupt the Sun's outer layers.

In particular, the astronomers and geophysicists who designed the experiments were intent on measuring the rise and fall of the disturbances in relation to the 11-year cycle of the sunspots.

There is violent activity to be monitored two to three years either side of the time when visible sunspots reach their peak in observable size. Their waxing and waning influence the climate on Earth and radio communications.

The satellite developed to monitor the Sun's changes was also the first spacecraft to be built with electronic circuits, which were to a standard design, providing easily replaceable plug-in modules.

Those modules are the sort which could be used in other satellites for controlling electrical power and keeping the craft pointed in the correct direction.

In addition, the vehicle is equipped with grappling pins so that the robot arm carried in the shuttle's cargo bay can reach out and hook on to the satellite. Before that happens, an astronaut must stop the satellite wobbling in space.

On the third day in orbit, Nelson will use his rocket backpack to fly from the shuttle to about 200ft above the satellite, which is 18ft high and on the ground weighed 5,000lb.

It is rotating slowly at one sixth of a revolution a minute, but it has delicate large solar panels sweeping space like fan blades to be avoided as the astronaut manoeuvres to grasp the grappling pins.

He then connects a belt on his spacesuit to a lock on the satellite, and by firing his backpack thrusters in the opposite direction to the spin of the satellite halts its rotation. The shuttle can then retrieve the spacecraft for repair in the cargo bay.

OBITUARY

PROF CEDRIC CARTER

Advances in clinical genetics

Professor Cedric Carter, who was director of the Medical Research Council clinical genetics unit, Institute of Child Health, from 1964 to 1982, died suddenly at his home at Keston, Kent, on March 12. He was 67.

Carter was educated at Winchester, Queen's College, Oxford, and St Thomas's Hospital medical school, qualifying in medicine in 1942. After serving as captain and major in the Royal Army Medical Corps, he soon indicated his academic interests, becoming Research Fellow in Congenital Malformations, the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, in 1948.

As first a member of the scientific staff and then director of the Institute of Child Health he made a major contribution to understanding the genetic influence in the common congenital malformations, providing the data on which genetic advice is now based. As honorary consultant geneticist to the Hospital for Sick Children, founder of the Clinical Genetic Society and Consultant Advisor in Genetics to the Department of Health and Social Security, he did more than any one other person to establish the present network of regional consultant posts in clinical genetics.

The influence of his unit was by no means confined to Britain, and clinical genetics units in several countries owe their origin to doctors trained at the Institute of Child Health.

Carter, who was also Emeritus Professor of Clinical Genetics, University of London, was awarded many honours, among them the Gold Medal for Services to Paediatrics, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, 1971.

Carter had a special association with the Eugenics Society, being general secretary from 1952 to 1957, and later president. He not only applied himself to the problems posed by genetic deseases, but was also interested in the inheritance of general characteristics such as intelligence. His view that people of high intelligence should have several children was regarded as rather unorthodox in an age when many people seemed apologetic about the notion that the difference in intelligence between individuals is largely determined by genetic factors.

He published numerous articles in learned journals and three books, his paperback *Human Heredity* bringing his clear exposition of genetic principles to a wide audience.

He is survived by his wife and seven children.

VISCOUNT MACMILLAN OF OVENDEN

Robert Rhodes James, MP, writes:

Maurice Macmillan, whose obituary you published on March 12, was reticent about his war record, but it was brave and admirable. He was amusing about his repeated failures to enter Parliament between 1945 and 1954, but they hurt. He won, and loved, Halifax in 1955, and was deeply saddened when he lost in 1964, and I suspect that he never fully gave his heart to safe Farnham as he had to the precarious North.

When he became Secretary of State for Employment in 1972 he had to face the full blast of trade union fury against the Industrial Relations Act. It was a measure of his quality that he earned the trust and respect of the union leaders against whom he found himself in unhappy and acute conflict. "I felt for him," a strong political opponent has said, "the comradeship that stems from tremendous personal affection and association."

He was never an impressive speaker, but people listened to him as to few other back-benchers: Reticent and reserved, he could unexpectedly flower into passion and oratory. If he had inherited many advantages, an unkind destiny imposed burdens and sadnesses over which he triumphed, if at a cost which only those most close to him can estimate. And, as he well knew and appreciated, he could not have done so alone. He had his vulnerabilities, but also his strengths. The latter were the more formidable.

Although one could never describe him as an extrovert, he could be the most amusing of companions – sardonic, shrewd, but never malicious. He was brave, but gentle; outspoken, but generous. It was an immensely appealing combination, founded as it was upon an unswerving integrity and high intelligence.

That slow smile, that sharp look, that diffidently given, but always wise, advice; that rare but jaylike laugh; and that spasm of pain when anything dishonourable or intellectually shallow was proposed or done – all were familiar, and none can be easily or adequately describee. In his presence one was transported into an infinitely more civilised and better age, as those much younger than he instinctively realised.

MR SAMUEL KUTCHER

Frederick Grinke writes:

With the passing on March 13 of Samuel Kutcher we see the end of an era of quartet playing which laid the foundation for the enormous advance in quartet playing today. In the 1930s there were only a few ensembles of note and the Kutcher Quartet was in the forefront, playing for all the leading music societies.

It is difficult to write about Samuel and all his contribution to music making in England without mentioning music making of his day. The great London houses frequently had quarter concerts where you would see leading London figures and patrons of the arts. The Kutchers played at all these concerts – at Lady Cunard's, at Wimborne House, Seaford House, Londonderry House, and Chirk Castle in Wales for Lord and Lady Howard de Walden.

Sir Robert and Lady Mayer were great patrons, and held frequent musical evenings where one would meet famous musical figures from all over the world. Sir Robert was a great admirer of Samuel Kutcher and did everything possible to guide his career.

In those early days Sam was the leader of the Childrens Concerts but his real love was quartet playing. His contribution in this field laid the foundation for all that was to follow, and our brilliant youngsters now play in every part of the globe.

Many music lovers will remember his playing with its intensity, warmth, vitality and genuine love of music.

Brigadier Lionel Lesley Cross, CBE, who died on March 6 at the age of 84, was chief of public information at Shape, in France, from 1954 to 1958, and Secretary of the Commonwealth Press Union 1959-70.

Mr John Eric Miers Macgregor, OBE, who died on January 29, was honorary technical adviser to the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings from 1933 to 1969, and the leading exponent of his day of the principles of conservative repair of historic buildings.

Services tomorrow: Second Sunday in Lent

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: The Second Sunday in Lent, HC 8; M, 10.30 Benedicite Dyson in F, Ave Verum Corpus (Mozart), Rev P Johson; HC, 11.40; E, 3.00, Walmisley in D, Call to remembrance (Battishill) Rev T Beeson; Organ Recital 5.45; ES, 6.30; Rt Rev E G Knapp-Fisher.
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: HC 8; M 10.30: Benedicite Ashfield in F; Jub: Henry Purcell in C, Lord Bishop of Winchester; HC 11.30: The Mass in G minor (Williams); Int: Like as the Hart (Howells); E, 3.15, Mag and Nunc Dimittis, Naylor in A; A, Insanae et vanae curae (Haydn), Rev Dr D Webster.
SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: HC 9; Cathedral Eucharist 11, Missa O Quam Gloriosum (Victoria); A, Surely Thou Hast Tasted (Rose). The Busy Sequence (Plainsong), Canon G Parrott; Cathedral E, 3 Sumsion in G; A, Praise The Lord, My Soul (Wesley), The Provost.
WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: Mass 10.30: Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Salvator Mundi (Blow), Jehova, Quam Multi Sunt (Purcell); Special S.
THE CHAPEL ROYAL AT ST JAMES'S: HC, 8.30; MP, 11.15; O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem (Howells), Canon C M Ruston.
QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY (public welcomed): M, 11.15: Benedicite (Dyson in F); A, Wash me Throughly (Wesley), Rev J Williams; HC, 12.30.
ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich: MP, 11; Int: Blessed are The pure in Heart (Davies); A, Praise to Thee (Schutz), the Chaplain.
GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks: M, 11, the Chaplain; HC.
LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL (public invited, entry via Lincoln's Inn Gateway) M.P. & S. Benedicite; Jub; A, Regnum mundi (Handl), Rev F V A Boyse, Organ Voluntary.
HM TOWER OF LONDON: (public welcomed): HC, 9.15; MP, Benedictus (Byrd, Short Service); A, Give ear, O Lord (Weelkes), the Chaplain.
TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street (public welcomed): HC, 8.30; MP, 11.15, Hear My Prayer O Lord (Purcell); Benedicite omnia opera (Dyson in F); Benedictus (Dyson in F); A, Rember, O Lord (Walmisley), the Master. Organ Voluntary.
ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) (public welcomed): HC, 8.30; MP, 11.00, Rev N B W James; HC 12.15; Benedicite (Jackson); In Jejunio et Fletu (Tallis).
CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: HC, 8.30; M, 11; Benedicite Sumsion in B flat; Jub: Howells Collegium Regale, Salvator Mundi (Tallis), Dean of Westminster; E, 3.30, Give Almes of Thy Goods (Tye), Tomkins Second Service, Remember not, Lord, Our Offences (Purcell).
ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: Sung Eucharist, 11, Rev M Beach.
ALL SOULS, Langham Place: HC 9.30; 11, Rev R Bewes; Service with informal music 6.30, Rev M Lawson.
ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street: LM, 8 and 8.15, HM, 11, Missa Sancti Dominici (Rubbra), Rev R P H Buck, Solemn ES and Benediction, 6.00, Farrant in G minor, Rev F P Coleman.
CHELSEA OLD CHURCH: HC, 8, noon; Children's Service, 10.11, Rev J H L Cross; 6, David Royce.
GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street: HC, 8.15; Sung Eucharist, 11; Mass for Five Voices (Berkeley) (Kyrie), Mass in the Phrygian Mode (Wood) (Agnus Dei), Nolo Mortem Peccatoris (Morley), Rev D A W Marks.
HOLY TRINITY, Brompton: HC, 8; HC Sung, 9; Rev J T C B Collins; ES, 6.30, Rev P J Whitworth.
HOLY TRINITY, Prince Consort Road: HC 8.30, 12.05; Choral MP, 11; Rev C Lawrence.
HOLY TRINITY, Sloane Street: HC, 8.30, HC 10.30, The Eucharist, Canon Roberts, HC 12.10.
ST ALBAN'S, Holborn: SM, 9.30; HM, 11, Missa Brevis (Leighton), O Lord, in thy wrath (Gibbons), Judge Michael Goodman; LM, 5.30.
THE ORATORY, SW7: LM 7, 8, 9, 10; HM, 11, Western Wynde Mass (Taverner), Emendemus in melius (Byrd); LM, 12.30, 4.30, 7; Vespers, 3.30, Miserere mei (Byrd).
ST ANSELM AND CECILIA, Kingsway: Solemn Mass 11, Missa super canto Romano (Heredia), Meditabor in mandatis tuis (Palestrina).
ST ETHELDREDA'S Ely Place (Holborn Circus): SM, 11, Byrd, For 3 voices, Mode 2 Meditabor.
CHURCH OF OUR LADY, St John's Wood: SM (Latin), 10.45, Missa Petra Sancta (Palestrina), Peccantem me quotidie (Palestrina), Timor et Tremor (Lassus).
THE JESUIT CHURCH, Farm Street: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 11 (Sung Latin Mass) Byrd, Mass for four voices, Gesualdo, Adoramus te Christe, Organ.
REGENT SQUARE PRESBYTARIAN CHURCH: (United Reformed), Tavistock Place: 11, Rev W. Workman, 6.30, Rev J. Miller.
ST PETER'S Eaton Square: HC, 8.15; Family Mass 10; Solemn Mass 11.00; Mass in G Minor (Hanson), Motet, Laboravi in Gemitu Meo (Morley), Fr O B Tülyer.
ST SIMON ZELOTES, Chelsea: HC, 8; MP, 11, Fr J Naters; EP, 6.30, Rev O R Clarke.
ST STEPHEN'S Gloucester Road: LM, 8, 9; HM, 11, Missa Brevis (Rose), Rev P Tuft; Stations of The Cross and Benediction, 6.
ST VEDAST, Foster Lane: SM, 11, Mass for 2 voices (Lotti), Erhore Mich (Schutz).
ST COLUMBA'S (Church of Scotland), Pont Street: 11, Rev W A Cairns; Young Christian Fellowship Service, 6.30.
CROWN COURT CHURCH (Church of Scotland), Russell Street, Covent Garden: 11.15, Rev M Cumberton; 6.30, Rev J Miller Scott.
ST MARY ABBOTS, Kensington: HC, 8 and 12.30; Sung Eucharist, 9.30, Rev M. J. Thompson; M, 11.15, Rev P. Arnold; E, 6.30, the Vicar.
ST MARY'S, Bourne Street: LM 8, 9.45, 7; HM, 11, Missa 'Emendemus' (Palestrina); Call to Remembrance (Farrant); Domine fac Mecum (Lassus), Fr. T. Bugby; 6.15, Stations of the Cross and Solemn Benediction.
ST MARYLEBONE PARISH CHURCH: HC, 8 and 11; Rev C. K. Hamel Cooke, Missa a Quatuor Jocibus (Byrd), Rev C. K. Hamel Cooke.
ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square: HC, 8.15, 11 (Rev M. Slomka); EP, 6.30, Rev B. Fulton.
ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge: HC, 8 and 9, Solemn Eucharist, 11, Canon James.
ST PAUL'S, Robert Adam Street: HC, 11, Rev G. Cassidy; 6.30, Rev G. Cassidy.
ST BATHOLOMEW–THE–GREAT PRIORY (AD 1123): HC, 9; M, and HC, 11; Benedicite (Shaw); A, Locus iste (Bruckner), Rev. A. Winter; E and HC, 6.30; Plainsong and FB (Ruffo and Nanini); A, In jejunio et fletu (Tallis), the Rector.
ST BRIDES, Fleet Street: HC 8.30; Choral M and Eucharist, 11.00; (Ballam Short Service), Excerpts from the Lamentations of Jeremiah (Bairstow); Jub, (Healey Willan), Rev W. Boulton; Choral E, 6.30; Durham University Society Cuthbert's-Tide Service, Smith of Durham; Mag, and Nunc, dimittus, (Jackson in G); A, O Lord in thy Wrath, Rebuke Me Not (Gibbons); Organ, Prebendary Dewi Morgan.
ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square: HC, 8.15; Sung Eucharist, 11; Missa Sancti Dominici (Rubbra); A, O Lord in thy Wrath (Gibbons), the Rector.
ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: HC, 8.30; Sung Eucharist, 11.00, EP 6.
ST MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER: HC, 8.15; Choral M and S, 11.00; Rev C. Taylor; HC, 12.15.
ST MARTIN–IN–THE–FIELDS: Family Communion 9.45; Rev F. Stevens; MS, 11.30, Norman Ingram-Smith; HC (1662) 12.30; Choral E, 4.15; ES, 6.30 BBC World Service Broadcast, the Vicar.
ST JOHN'S WOOD United Reformed Church (Presbyterian/Congregationalist), Lord's Roundabout, NW8: 9.30 am, Rev J. Miller.
CENTRAL HALL, Westminster: 11 and 6.30, Rev Dr R. J. Tudor (Spring Rally).
WEST LONDON MISSION, Hinde Street Methodist Church, W1: 11, Rev J. Newton; Student Methodist Society, 6.30.
CITY TEMPLE, Holborn Viaduct, EC: 11, Rev Dr B. Johanson; 6.30, Rev C. Flashman.
WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, Buckingham Gate: 11 and 6.30, Rev Dr R. T. Kendall.
WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road: 11, Rev R. G. M. Tedcastle.

Allhallows School, Devon

6th Form, minor scholarship: J Lee (The Woodroffe School).

3rd Form, major scholarship: E Beaumont Bissell (High Wych/The Woodroffe School); H Owen (St Michael's Tawstock); P Jackson (St Michael's Tawstock).

Music, minor scholarship: P Nell (Salisbury Cathedral School); J Moss (St Michael's Tawstock.)

هكذا من الأصل

12, 13
Travel: Taking to the water – journey up the Nile and cruising in Mustique and the exotic Grenadines

14, 15
Values: Shopping at the push of a button; **Eating Out; Review of** the month's video; **Drink and In the Garden**

16, 17
Preview: The RSC's new programme; Critics' choice of **Dance, Music, Opera, Theatre, Films** and **Galleries; Films on TV**

19, 20
Collecting passports; **Family Life; Bridge; Chess;** prize crossword; rough-weather sailing and **The Week Ahead**

THE TIMES Saturday

17-23 MARCH 1984 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

Past times and present history

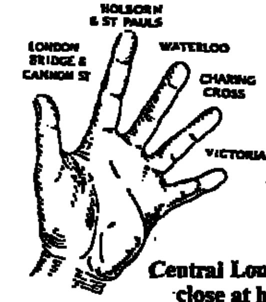
The thirst for knowledge of a community's past excites both professors and schoolchildren. **Peter Waymark, who buried legends and gave substance to rumours in his history of a London suburb, explains how to become a local historian**

This is a story of William Willett, the campaigner for daylight saving, and of General de Gaulle and of an unsung man of many parts called Noel Rees who put up some of the finest Tudor-style houses in suburban London between the wars. It could also have been a story of Old Mother Riley.

My involvement in writing local history came about purely by accident and with happy consequences I could not possibly have foreseen. It happened because someone was alert enough to realize, well before the event, that 1979 would mark the fiftieth anniversary of Petts Wood and District Residents' Association.

To make the rest of this piece intelligible to readers who have never heard of the place, I should explain that Petts Wood is a residential area about 15 miles from the centre of the capital in what is postally still Kent but administratively is part of Greater London.

Started in 1928 and substantially completed by the outbreak of the Second World War, Petts Wood is one of the best examples of the modern "garden suburb", inheriting, perhaps unconsciously, the ideas of visionaries like Ebenezer



Central London close at hand

Howard, the creator of Welwyn and Letchworth.

The developer who laid out Petts Wood was guided by the Latin tag, *"rus in urbe"*. His aim was to create a pleasing, quasi-rural environment which was only half an hour by train to the city. In planning the estate he emphasized the natural sweep of the landscape and preserved as far as possible the many trees. House styles, particuarly the mock-Tudor, with its oak beams and leaded windows, tried to evoke the country cottage.

Various ideas were put forward to mark the half-century of the residents' association and the one that took root was a local history. All the surrounding districts – Bromley, Chislehurst, Orpington – had their histories, so why not Petts Wood? As the association's tame journalist (I was editing its monthly magazine) I agreed to undertake the task.

The books of local history I had read gave me a low opinion of the genre. While full of admiration for the effort that had obviously gone into them. I felt they too often comprised a random collection of facts that was shapeless and indigestible. History should be a pleasure to read, not an ordeal; I must try to do better.

My guiding principle was that I should tell a story. Narrative history may be out of fashion, except among a few older practitioners like A. J. P. Taylor, but I still saw merit in a broadly chronological approach: after all, the order in which events happen is usually crucial.

Luckily Petts Wood offered a fairly neat scheme. I would start with the Pett family who are believed (though the evidence is tantalizingly slight) to have given the area its name. They were the country's leading shipbuilders during the Tudor and Stuart periods and they took a lease on the wood to secure oak for their craft.

That was one chapter. Another would relate the campaign of William Willett, who settled in Chislehurst and became obsessed with the idea that the nation was "wasting" daylight simply because it was not prepared to change the hands of the clock. Modern Petts Wood commemorates him with a Willett Way and a Willett recreation ground and a pub called the Daylight Inn.

But the book's core would describe how a delightful area of woods and ponds and strawberry fields was turned, in the space of barely a decade, into a new suburb of quality and character; later chapters would describe how the original garden suburb concept had been modified by the dramatic growth of car ownership, the incursion of office blocks and supermarket shopping.

I was determined to make the story as readable and exciting as I could. I saw no harm in leavening what I hoped would be serious analysis by mentioning one of the first Petts Wood doctors, who called his house "Bedside Manor" and followed the horse-drawn milk cart with a shovel so that he could pick up the manure for his garden.

Where would I go for the information? The obvious sources proved disappointing. The public libraries had little; perhaps the area was not considered "old" enough. And the local newspaper had no cuttings and did not catalogue its photographs. There was plenty of interest in the newspaper's files but I had to spend days wading through them to find it.

In the end most of the material came from local people. I advertised my wants in the residents' association magazine and the response was tremendous. Before long my living-room floor was buried under paper – house deeds (which can be most informative), brochures, maps, scrapbooks, photographs. In addition, and equally valuable, were first-hand accounts from many people who had lived in Petts Wood from the begining.

I was delighted to be able to piece together an account of how General de Gaulle and his family came to live there in 1940 at the start of his exile in Britain; but disappointed to destroy the legend that another famous Petts Wood resident had been that unique star of the music-hall Old Mother Riley. The origin of the rumour was a house called Lucan, "Riley's" real name being Arthur Lucan.

Although the book was a modest 64 pages, writing it took longer than I could possibly have imagined; but it went to the printer on time to appear for the fiftieth anniversary in November. The association funded the project, spending £1,500 on a print run of 3,000 copies and setting the rather strange price of 85p.

We arranged coverage in the local press and launched the book at a well attended gathering in the Memorial Hall.



A sign of the times

After that, we crossed our fingers: there had never been such an enterprise before and in more pessimistic moments we had visions of boxes of unsold books steadily gathering dust.

To general amazement and delight exactly the opposite happened. The book was soon selling in its hundreds and the word got round, for orders came in from all over the British Isles and then from the Continent and even from a former Petts Wood resident living in Hongkong. We sold out in eight months.

Perhaps I should not have been surprised, for there has been a remarkable explosion of interest in local history over the past 15 to 20 years and the reception accorded to my small contribution is by no means untypical. There is a great hunger to know about the local past and countless people, from children at primary schools to university professors, are trying to satisfy it.

On one level, more than half the postgraduate theses on history in British universities are devoted to local rather than national topics. On another is the enormous output of church guides, which are among the most widely read form of historical literature. A competition last year to find the best guide attracted nearly 750 entries, all of them published in the previous seven years.

There is so much call on material that sources like the public record offices are barely able to cope. And so many people are managing to get their work into print that a reviewer in the magazine *The Local Historian*, was forced to ask, "But where is it all going to end?".

Easier to say where it all started. Four years ago a committee under Lord Blake of Braydeston (better known as the historian Robert Blake) examined the rapid growth in the study and practice of local history and suggested that the reason lay in social and psychological needs arising from attacks on the traditional landscape by such developments as intensive farming, motorway construction and the building of urban tower blocks.

The committee felt that although these changes had resulted in certain benefits, they had not infrequently led to the disruption of older patterns of society and blurred local distinctions and differences. They had left many people uncertain; on the other hand, an understanding of the history of a locality could provide a sense of roots, identity and individuality.

Blake also connected the phenomenon with the emergence of the motor car as a widely available means of personal transport and the increase in leisure. "We confidently predict", the committee concluded, "that the interest in local history studies will continue to grow".

I have mentioned that much of my material came from conversations with older residents, who were kind enough to spend an hour or two digging into their memories. Here again I was unwittingly following a trend, for "oral" history has become an increasingly important part of local studies over the past decade.

Stephen Humphries is putting together a television history of London between the wars based largely on interviews with people who lived through the period. "What we are trying to do", he says, "is to find out about the lives of ordinary people whose experiences are virtually undocumented.

"I am thinking particularly of working-class and minority groups but also, for that matter, the middle classes: what, for instance, it was like to be a bank manager's wife in the 1930s."

Oral history is not only being practised by university departments up and down the land but is the basis of community projects run by groups such as Age Concern and Help the Aged. "Apart from the historical value", says Stephen Humphries, "there can be a therapeutic aspect, since taking part in these projects gives old people an interest and a sense of dignity."

He concedes that memories are selective and fallible and agrees that oral reminiscences must be given the same critical scrutiny as any other type of evidence. "Obviously if oral accounts of a particular event throw up total contradictions, then you are right to be suspicious. But in some areas there is simply no other evidence available.

"I did an oral history project about elementary education in the early years of the century and discovered that there were hundreds of strikes in schools against corporal punishment. There was little mention of this in the official records and the only way to find out was to talk to people who were then children in these schools."

Long after my Petts Wood book was sold out, people were still asking for it, and last year I produced a second edition. It was not just a reprint but a bigger book, substantially rewritten to bring the story up to date and incorporate new material on the early years.

Although the original book had been well received, I was aware that it had important gaps. There was very little about the man who more than anyone else created Petts Wood, a developer of unusual vision called Basil Scruby; nor had I adequately covered the colourful career of the builder, Noel Rees, whose road of mock-Tudor houses has recently been designated a conservation area.

Within days of the first edition being published I had a telephone call from a man who had read an article in the local newspaper about the book and thought I would like to know that he worked with Basil Scruby's son. This was a marvellous piece of luck, which I duly followed up, and Scruby is now properly covered.

Noel Rees still proved elusive. There were plenty of anecdotes, most of them about his liking for fast cars (in the 1930s he ran a British motor racing team at Brooklands); but little hard fact. The mystery deepened when a local estate agent claimed, on very dubious authority, that Rees was a Dutchman.

With the deadline for the second edition approaching, I made one last appeal in the residents' association magazine. To my delight it was answered, by a woman who knew the Rees family. She gave me a telephone number (in Wales, not The Netherlands) and in a few minutes I had the full story, with photographs a couple of days later.

This time the borough library came in on the book, meeting half the cost and undertaking to sell half the copies. Again we printed 3,000. There were 20 more pages and three times as many illustrations but we managed to keep the cover price down to £1.50. Sales were again brisk and more than 2,000 copies have gone since the launch in the middle of November.

New information still comes to light. The other day a friend in the local history society came across a book containing a photograph of an old farmhouse. I had been after such a picture for ages; what a pity it had not surfaced six months earlier. One day, I suppose, there will have to be a third edition.



Invitation to a suburban dream: An estate brochure extols the virtues of fresh air and healthy living only 15 miles – 22 minutes by Southern Electric – from the centre of London



Father figures: Phineas Pett (left), leading Stuart shipbuilder, and William Willett, campaigner for daylight saving

Saved from the developers: Woodland bought for the National Trust in 1927 as an important amenity for the new suburb



Houses fit for commuters: Wide pavements and trim walls as the Petts Wood estate takes shape in the early 1930s



Selling fantasy: A maid vacuums the carpet in a two-bedroomed 'semi'

Apogee of style: Mock Tudor at its richest, the essence of rural-romantic

The British Association for Local History, set up in 1982 as an umbrella body to advance understanding and knowledge of local history, is at 43 Bedford Square, London WC1 (636 4066).

There are so many local history societies, running into many hundreds, that no one has managed to compile an up-to-date list; but the public library should have details of them.

Courses in local history are run by the **Workers' Education Association (WEA)**, 32 Tavistock Square, London WC1 (387 8966); university extra-mural departments; and local authorities.

Useful books are *Writing Local History*, by David Dymond (Bedford Square Press, £3.25), and the same author's *Writing a Church Guide* (Church Information Office, 90p). *The Handbook of Oral History*, by Stephen Humphries (Inter-Action Inprint, £4.95) is a parochial guide to organizing local history projects.

Next week: Back to the roots – the family tree

Forward planning for those who want to look backwards

Though researching local history can be rewarding in itself, there is even more satisfaction in getting the work into print. Here, from personal experience, are a few tips:

1. Give yourself enough time. Even a small booklet will take much longer than you think, once you start visiting libraries and archives, interviewing people and checking and cross-checking facts. And then you have to get down to writing!

2. Plan the book so that it has a coherent shape. Write in your own words and avoid lengthy quotations from other sources. Do not be afraid to include lighter touches to make the story more readable. Feature as many personalities as possible: it is often people that give an area its character.

3. Try to make the book look attractive. Look at, and learn from, other books. Choose a pleasant typeface from the selection offered by the printer and do not crowd too many words on to a page. Break up the text with sub-headings and avoid long paragraphs. Illustrate as generously as space and available material allow: historic photographs do wonders for a book but do not forget maps and drawings. If you can find someone who works in publishing to help you with page layout and picture display, so much the better.

4. Type your manuscript (or get someone to do this for you), allowing plenty of space between lines and wide margins for additions and corrections. Before it goes to the printer, ask people with a knowledge of the subject to read it through for errors of fact and interpretation (and even grammar and spelling!).

5. Find a good printer, who will be prepared to cooperate with you at every stage in the book's production (it is essential, for instance, to be able check proofs) and do a professional job within the required time. Go for personal recommendation. One idea is to ask the local authority who does their printing. Ideally, get quotations from more than one firm.

6. Once you have printers' estimates you can start costing the project. The more copies you have printed, the lower the unit cost becomes; but there will be a limit to the number of books you can sell. An economic minimum is probably 1,000 copies and an upper limit 3,000. The printer's bill will be the main factor in setting the price but do not forget other expenses, like payment to reproduce photographs and, if you sell through a bookseller, his margin. A rough guide is to take the printing cost per book and double it to give the retail price. All of this assumes that you, the author, work for nothing.

7. Finance: in my case this came from the residents' association and the borough library service, both obvious sources. You can try to raise a loan from the bank.

8. Publicity: get in touch with all the local newspapers and magazines, as well as local radio and television; send them a press release giving a crisp and readable outline of the book and offer review copies. Offer yourself for interview. They are all looking for items to fill their pages/air time and should be pleased to hear from you.

9. The best time to launch the book is in the autumn; this is when most books are sold, partly because they make good Christmas presents. Choose a date that does not clash with another local event and arrange a social function, such as a wine and cheese party. Invite the mayor, or other local celebrity, and the press.

10. You can try selling the book from your home but it is far more effective to have it on show in local booksellers and newsagents. The normal commercial mark-up on a book is 35 per cent but if you explain that your volume is a non-profit-making community effort, they will probably be willing to take less. The library may also agree to sell copies. Make sure the names of people selling the book are included in all the publicity. And may you have a bestseller!

Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL/1

Charles Wilson takes a luxury cruise down Egypt's mighty river and revels in the splendours of fifty centuries of civilization

The smile on the face of the Nile



Egypt ancient and modern: General Gordon flanked by a statue at Karnak and an Arab from Luxor

John Gordon's name is carved in history. Many generations before the first GI scrawled "Kilroy was here", Mr Gordon had raised the base act of graffiti writing to the art of calligraphy in stone.

The legend "John Gordon 1804" appears like a BSI kitemark on many of the greatest masterpieces left us by the Pharaohs of Egypt. There is no trace of who he was; probably a military man, English or Scot, a member of the British army that persuaded Napoleon's men to flee Egypt in 1801. But he is omnipresent among the omnipotent and the omniscient. Wherever you find his name, gouged beautifully and clearly, you know you are before something worth looking at. And if you happen to be meandering through a temple where he has not left his lasting calling card you begin to wonder if you are wasting time on an insignificant relic.

Egypt is simply astounding. The beauty and age of its civilization and its state of preservation is appreciated by modern tourists in audible gasps. Ironically, the graffiti endured by the figures in paintings and statuary help the visitor to comprehend Egypt's depth of history. The architectural treasures of the Pharaohs had been used as a blackboard for 1,500 years before Boudicca was born here in Britain. The earliest known graffito was carved in hieroglyphics by priests from Thebes 3,500 years ago – on a pyramid corridor wall built 1,200 years before that. All making John Gordon no more than a Johnny-come-lately.

One should talk of the Nile rather than *Egypt*, for although Egypt is bigger than any European country except Russia, about 96 per cent of the population live in the river's valley. The rest of the country is barren desert where only the Beduin survive. Everything that one could absorb, certainly on a first visit, is within sight of the river.

Which is why the visitor's preferred means of travel and accommodation must be a river boat: a floating hotel that transports you at night, or in the hottest part of the day, and welcomes you back from daily excursions to ponder the wonders of the world over chilled refreshment. Ten years ago there were only a handful of these luxurious boats on the Nile; now there are more than 60, and the fleet is growing by the month. Many are owned or run by the leading hotel groups, and some British travel companies like Abercrombie and Kent also run their own. They offer the Nile in style.

For the beginner in Egyptology it is a splendid idea, whether you are going to stay in hotels in Upper Egypt or pick up a boat, to spend a day or two in Cairo first. This allows a few hours in the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities to put the forthcoming trip into perspective. Apart from the fascination of 100,000 exhibits, the museum provides the opportunity to swot up, with the help of your guide, the basic knowledge necessary to appreciate the millennia of supreme, and sometimes incestuous, dynastic power you are about to experience. The names of the outstanding Pharaohs; an elementary understanding of the philosophy and the practicalities of the mummification industry; how to tell an upper-kingdom Pharaoh from his lower-kingdom counterpart by the shape of his headdress; how to tell whether a statue was carved in the image of a live Pharaoh or after his death by the shape of his beard.

Naturally the high spot of the museum visit is the Tutankhamun section, where two points are carefully made. First, that large though the exhibition which came to London was, it included only a tiny proportion of the treasures discovered in Tutankhamun's tomb. And that because he was such a young, and therefore insignificant Pharaoh, who died after a brief reign, his burial was a hasty and rather shoddy affair by the standards of the times and his treasures would be dwarfed by those buried with the more important Pharaohs.

There are dozens to choose from, including women such as Hatshepsut, the first important woman Pharaoh, and Queen Cleopatra, whom Shakespeare and Miss Taylor have made famous. But for me the greatest of them all was Rameses II, who ruled for 65 years, and had 90 sons and 105 daughters. He ruled about 3,300 years ago and to be able to reach out and touch the statues he watched being carved in his own image, to wallow in his enduring presence, is intoxicating.

Only a taxi ride from the centre of Cairo is the Great Pyramid at Giza. Even negotiating your way into the central room where Cheops was once laid to rest does not somehow bring the spiritual contact with the past that is palpable in the shrines of Upper Egypt. But Mark Twain was most impressed when he led a party of tourists there in the 1860s. His only disappointment was that he could not shake off the beggars.

From Cairo we flew to Aswan to join one of the two Hilton hotel boats that offer five-day cruises of what their brochure calls the world's "greatest outdoor museum". From Aswan the little liner sails downstream and passengers wake up on the morning of the second day moored by the temple of Kom Ombo, a Ptolemaic double temple complex dedicated to the gods Sobek and Haroeris.

On a wall of the temple is carved a comprehensive set of surgical instruments in use in 200BC, some disconcertingly similar to those in use today. After lunch back on board, there is a trip by horse-drawn carriage to the Temple of Horus at Edfu.

Edfu is a classic example of how the sand of Egypt was essential first in erecting colossal constructions and centuries later in helping to preserve the stone, carvings and murals. The ancients used sand as we use scaffolding today. Huge blocks of stone were pushed up the sloped sides of mountains of sand that grew with the construction; when the last stone was laid the mountain was removed.

Later, as the temples became ill-tended, the sands returned to reclaim the sites, and when vandals – usually early Christians – set to in the first and second centuries AD to disfigure the paintings and carvings, the drifting sands had in many cased raised the floor many feet. Archaeologists excavating in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries removed the sand and rubble to original floor levels and found the lower 10 to 20 feet in perfect condition.

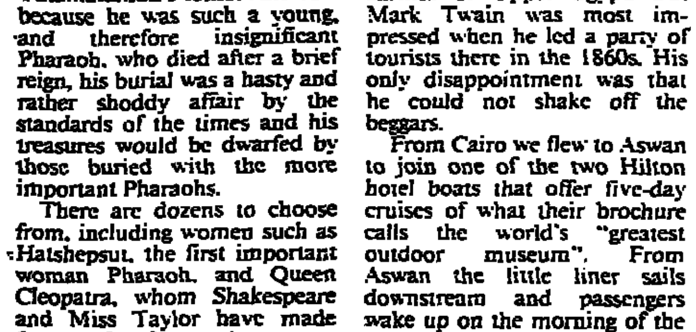
Farther down river, the town of Esna boasts a Ptolemaic temple but is more famous, or notorious, for its brothels of the mid-nineteenth century. Flaubert, one of many authors captivated by the Egyptian experience, is said to have been fascinated too by prostitution and to have indulged this interest in Esna before returning to France to write *Madame Bovary*.

The Luxor and Karnak temples, for many people the most memorable experience in Egypt, are reached on the third day. Luxor became the capital in about 1500BC, and Pharaoh after Pharaoh strove to outdo his predecessors in leaving the grandest monuments to his memory. The result is the world's biggest complex dedicated to worship, an undertaking of piety that required 82,000 priests to service it.

Rameses was one of the great builders at Luxor and, like many of his breed, not averse to augmenting his own constructions by having the names of ancestors removed from existing work and his own added. Knowing the family predilection for statue-stealing he built precautions into his designs. The great obelisk that was sent to the Place de la Concorde in Paris in 1936 had his name, deeds and devotion carved on all four sides. Only when it was lowered in Luxor for transportation to France was his name found engraved on the underside of the shaft as well.

A Graeco-Roman temple at Dendera, and another, older one at Abdyos said to house the finest 3,300-year-old paintings in the world, make a fourth-day diversion before returning to Luxor for the climax of this mini-cruise – Thebes, with its Valley of the Kings, Valley of the Queens and Valley of the Nobles.

There are known to have been more than 900 rulers and their relatives entombed in this giant necropolis carved from the rock. In the Valley of the Kings, reserved for the Pharaohs themselves, 62 tombs have been identified. The centrepiece for most visitors is again Tutankhamun, because many of the treasures found are still in the tomb and so there is more to see here. He was buried in the prescribed Russian-doll manner, three coffins, one great sarcophagus and then four wooden shrines, each bigger and grander than the last.



Flying the flag: British troops bound for Wadi Halfa in 1884



Cook's great expedition

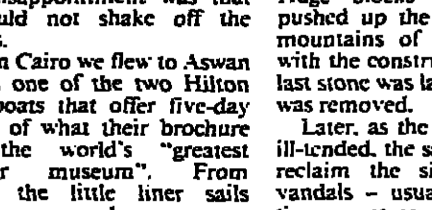
A hundred years ago Thomas Cook was asked by the British Government to transport its expeditionary force being assembled to go to the aid of General Gordon at Khartoum. The company's task was to ferry 11,000 troops and all their equipment and supplies from Alexandria to Wadi Halfa.

To celebrate the centenary of the mission, the company is this summer offering a commemorative two-week Nile cruise. Guest lecturers and historians will accompany the tour, which begins in Cairo on August 18 and includes 11 nights on a Sheraton Nile cruise ship. Holidaymakers will sail upriver as far as Aswan and fly from there on a day excursion to Abu Simbel.

The Gordon Centenary Nile Cruise costs from £1,249 per person including all flights, transfers, meals and trips.

The original voyage was packed with incident. Boats were smashed in rapids, steamers drifted on to sandbanks, tow ropes parted and men and beasts suffered from heat, exhaustion and disease. The Cooks had been asked to transport the expeditionary force because Thomas Cook controlled the Nile steamer fleet of the day, and his son, John Mason Cook, was one of the few men who had travelled on the Nile above the second cataract.





At the top end of the market, a one-week Nile holiday costs from £1,056 per person. This includes all international and domestic flights, first-class hotel accommodation, Hilton cruise boat and meals. For further information contact Abercrombie and Kent, 42 Sloane Street, London SW1 (01-235 9761). If you are looking for something less expensive, MISR Travel will put together a package for you. For example, they will arrange international and domestic flights, transfers, bed and breakfast in a three-star Cairo hotel, a five-day (four-night) Nile cruise with full board and all excursions from around £667 per person. MISR Travel, 40 Great Marlborough Street, London W1 (01-437 5119). International flight information from British Airways local offices or BA Flight Information (01-759 2525); or from the Egyptian Tourist Office, 168 Piccadilly, London W1 (01-493 5282).

Food in Egypt is unremarkable both in price and content, but local wine is perfectly drinkable at around £5 to £6 a bottle.

An excellent guidebook is Michael von Haag's Guide to Egypt, published by Travelaid at £6.50. Few people escape stomach trouble while in Egypt, so it is best to go prepared and be sure to take some sort of insect repellent. Egypt is sunny all year and very hot in July and August, when it averages above 28°C/82°F.

TRAVEL/2

Mystique in Mustique, beauty in Bequia

Diane Spencer charters a yacht and goes lotus eating in the Grenadines

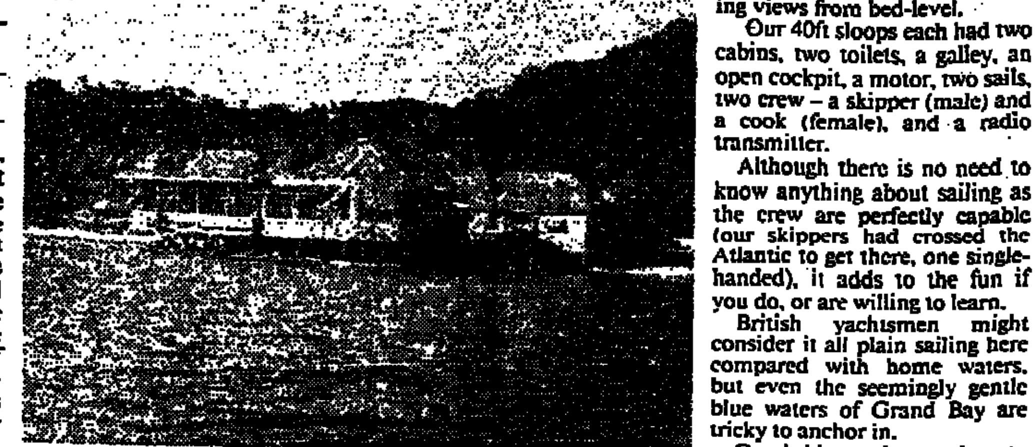
Monday morning: to Mustique, a manicured tropical island set in a sparkling blue sea where even the stray dogs have pedigrees. The visitor is brought down to earth only by the ferocity of the sandflies and mosquitoes and the sight of the gently rusting hulk of the French liner Antilles, just off the northern shore. (An enthusiastic captain once treated his passengers to a close-up view and was grounded on an uncharted reef.)

It spoils the view, though not for HRH whose house faces the other way, and whose blue blood must be immune to those "no-see-ums" out to suck bare flesh at dusk. But the hospitality at Basil's Bar, an elegant, thatched shack on Grand Bay makes up for any discomfort.

Mustique, however, is only one of many delights to be sampled in a visit to the Grenadines in the eastern Caribbean. Unfortunately our visit coincided with the invasion of Grenada, so our planned cruise on two 40ft yachts from St Vincent to Union Island had to be cut short at Mustique.

The war might have been 50,000 miles away instead of 50, except for the unnerving sight of huge military aircraft and soldiers on the tarmac of Barbados airport. For that was our first stop: to relax for a few days in the utmost luxury in Alan Bay House on the west coast of this easternmost Caribbean island before the rigours of an almost-open boat.

Alan Bay is the largest and most expensive house offered for rent by our hosts on this trip, Caribbean Connection, a company specializing in tailor-made holidays. This house offered seclusion, excellent staff, including a cook confident enough to demand and deserve punctuality when serving a soufflé, and a white beach at the end of the garden.



Well-sited for sundowners: Basil's Bar, Mustique

From this haven you might be tempted to venture round the island. Perhaps to go to Andromeda gardens on the Atlantic coast to see the rare bearded fig tree from which the island is said to have been named by Spanish explorers in the sixteenth century, or the 99 other specimens carefully labelled and nurtured by the owner, Mrs Iris Bannochie, since 1954.

Barbados is large and sophisticated by eastern Caribbean standards, and can be recommended for first-time visitors to this part of the world, especially if they like a large choice of hotels, restaurants and entertainment. Water sports are readily available for the suicidally active; the world windsurfing championships were held there recently.

Talking of water, Barbados makes an excellent jumping-off point for the Grenadines, which is where the story really starts. A short flight into the sunset on a Tropic Air charter took us to St Vincent for a last night of luxury on the terra firma of Young Island before taking to the boats.

The Young Island Hotel straddles a steep hill: bars, restaurant, pool and most accommodation at sea level, then a few luxurious apartments at the top with breathtaking views from bed-level.

Our 40ft sloops each had two cabins, two toilets, a galley, an open cockpit, a motor, two sails, two crew – a skipper (male) and a cook (female), and a radio transmitter.

Although there is no need to know anything about sailing as the crew are perfectly capable (our skippers had crossed the Atlantic to get there, one single-handed), it adds to the fun if you do, or are willing to learn.

British yachtsmen might consider it all plain sailing here compared with home waters, but even the seemingly gentle blue waters of Grand Bay are tricky to anchor in.

Good skippers know where to anchor and to buy ice and water. They supervise barbecues on desert islands, lead the singing round the fire, and know the best reefs for snorkelling, bays for windsurfing and a lot more besides.

Although we failed to get to Tobago Cays, a group of small deserted islands reputed to be "what sailing in the Grenadines is all about", we did visit Bequia, the yachtmen's favourite port in the northern Grenadines. It can be reached only by boat – about two hours sailing from St Vincent, and is comfortably unsmart compared with Mustique.

Port Elizabeth, the only town, boasts a few bars and boutiques and the Sunny Caribbea Hotel offers simple but good accommodation. Saturday nights can be lively down at the Green Boley Bar, especially after a walk along the shore from the hotel to reach it: getting rather wet adds to the fun. Sunday morning was peaceful; there was even a baptism ceremony of the total immersion kind under a large tree on the beach.

But whatever the day has in store, there is always the sunset to look forward to. You might even see the green flash which is supposed to occur just when the sun vanishes over the horizon. Sceptics attribute it to the quantities of rum punch imbibed while waiting for it, but who knows?



Where to stay: Caribbean Connection, Belgrave House, Bath Street, Chester CH1 1QL (0244 41131) offers a wide variety of destinations and prices. Alan Bay House in Barbados sleeps eight adults and has two extra beds for children, costs £3,860 a week from Jan 1 to Apr 9 and £2,965 from Apr 16 to Nov 30. Tips, food and drink extra. Flights from £350 to £440 per person extra, depending on the season. Young Island Hotel prices start at £800 a week, halfboard including flight, and the Sunny Caribbea on Bequia at £575, no meals, in the low season.

Sailing holidays: Caribbean Connection organizes yacht charters with crew for seven nights to combine with a week on any of the islands. Approximate cost for six people including food is £300 each, flights extra.

Food: Good on the boats and in Alan Bay House as we had imaginative cooks; but in the Grenadines as a whole, it is rather plain and overcooked. Fish and lobster and some tropical fruit in abundance. There are some good, but quite expensive, restaurants in Barbados.

U.K. HOLIDAYS

Holidays and Villas

also on page 34

Barclaycard tightens up on holidays

Problems raised by the collapse of the Laker Airways tour companies two years ago may make it more difficult for some customers to pay for their holidays by Barclaycard in future.

Several hundred holidaymakers who used their cards to buy a holiday direct from Laker's two tour-operating companies, Laker Air Travel and Arrowsmith, have still not been repaid because of a legal argument which has been going on since the group's failure.

The Tour Operators' Study Group Trust Fund, which administers the bonds originally lodged by the Laker companies, has argued that Barclaycard is liable under the Consumer Credit Act 1974 to reimburse the customers who lost their money. The card company has denied liability, arguing that the clients were already protected by the bonds, but has now agreed to make ex-gratia payments totalling about £80,000 to the 600 or so holidaymakers affected.

By contrast, claims by American Express cardholders were paid within a week of Laker's collapse while Access paid out about a year ago.



Sir Freddie Laker

There are now doubts as to whether customers will in future be able to use Barclaycard to book holidays direct with a tour operator because the company will be insisting that operators accepting the card must take out insurance cover as a protection against their collapse while the tour operators say they are already adequately bonded.

Mr Harry Chandler, president of the Tour Operators' Study Group, said he expected that tour companies would encourage clients to use Access or American Express instead. However, Barclaycard says that its new, firmer line need not affect the "vast majority" of holiday bookings which, it says, are made through travel agents under their own merchant agreements with the card company.

The cost of refunding clients hit by the Laker tour firms' collapse has now reached about £11m.

TRAVEL NEWS

Kiwi express

Air New Zealand will be introducing the fastest service from London (Gatwick) to Auckland on April 5. On one of its two weekly services it will be stopping only at Los Angeles on the 12,000-mile journey, which will take 25 hours 45 minutes, a saving of three hours on the present two-stop route.

Down on the farm

The growing demand for farm holidays is being met by the formation of the Farm Holiday Bureau, based at the National Agricultural Centre in Warwickshire, which publishes leaflets listing more than 500 bed-and-breakfast and self-catering holidays at farms throughout the country. For details contact the Farm Holiday Bureau, National Agricultural Centre, Stoneleigh, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2LZ.

Cheque mates

The Avis car-rental company has introduced an ingenious scheme under which holidaymakers can buy "Driveaway Cheques", similar to travellers' cheques, which can be exchanged for a hire car in any of the main European holiday destinations. Each cheque – in denominations of £10, £15 or £25 – will cover the cost of one day's car rental and the price includes unlimited mileage, insurance and collision-damage waiver.

Gamesmanship

American Dream, a specialist tour operator, is offering package holidays to the Olympic Games in Los Angeles this summer. Prices range from £1,175 for seven nights to £1,395 for 14 nights and include scheduled flights between London and Los Angeles, accommodation and tickets to four Olympic events. Details from American Dream, 4 Station Parade, High Street North, London E6 (01-470 1181).

Good Goddess!

Sea Goddess Cruises, a Norwegian company, introduces next month what is claimed to be a new concept in luxury cruising. Its first ship, the 4,000-ton Sea Goddess I, will carry only 120 passengers and the £2,200 fare includes all drinks on board, while tipping will be discouraged. Its first Mediterranean cruise is from Malaga on April 7; in the winter it will operate in the Caribbean. Details from Equity Cruises, 70-79 Great Eastern Street, London EC1 (01-729 1929).

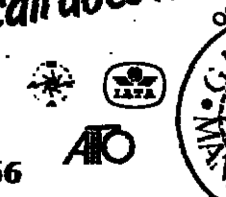
Fail-safe

The Exchange Travel chain of high street travel agencies is offering an insurance plan which gives up to £3,000 protection against the financial failure of any principal whose services are booked through the agency. The premium is £2.50 per person.

Philip Ray

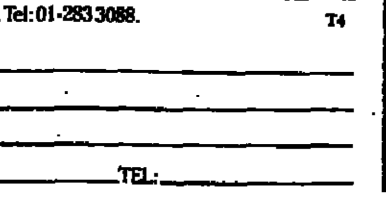






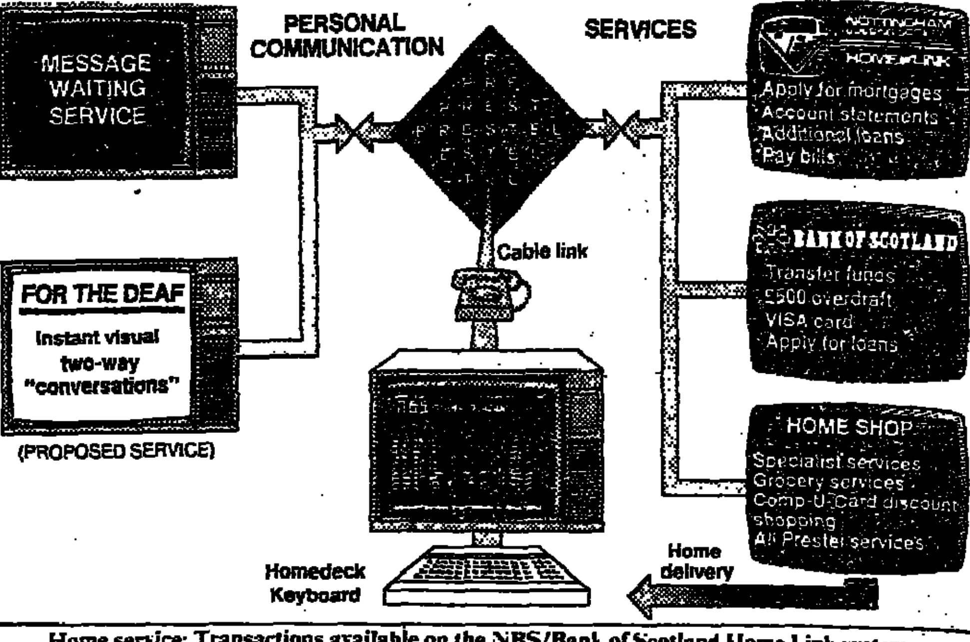






Computer hot-line to the high street

Beryl Downing, in the second of her two-part series on the future of shopping, looks at order-by-computer systems already in operation



Home service: Transactions available on the NBS/Bank of Scotland Home Link system

Imagine sitting comfortably at home in front of the television and ordering your heavy groceries by computer. Imagine selecting a new shirt from a selection called up on your screen like a mail order catalogue. Imagine booking your holiday at midnight and then raising a bank loan to pay for it without having to face your bank manager.

You don't have to imagine. Teleshopping has already arrived. It is still in the experimental stages, but is actually being used by about 40,000 people.

There are three major schemes – two commercial and one social service – and all are made possible by Prestel, British Telecom's national information service.

The first scheme, run by the Nottingham Building Society, was Homelink, which after a shaky start became nationally available in September last year.

Primarily it was set up to provide NBS members with a banking service at home. Members with investments of more than £4,000 get a Homedeck keyboard on free loan; others with the minimum £1,000 investment can rent a Homedeck for 60p per week. NBS arrange free installation but users pay Prestel £5 per quarter for the use of the network. Every Homelink communication costs the same as a local telephone call.

Having got a Homedeck, members can not only receive all the Prestel information but can carry out financial transactions through a link to the NBS computer and another at the Bank of Scotland, where users automatically qualify for an interest-bearing current account which can be used as a number 2 account if they have one elsewhere. At any time, seven days a week, they can check their building society or bank account and transfer funds between the two. They can pay bills, arrange direct debits, apply for a mortgage. All personal information is protected by a series of security checks and by a personal code number.

They can then book holidays, look at houses or cars for sale, book a theatre, bid at an auction, do some shopping....

Here the options, it must be admitted, are limited. "We mustn't lose sight of the fact that we are a building society", says David Guthrie, London regional manager of the NBS. "All our suppliers have to make it worthwhile to our members for us to include them, by giving special discounts, for example. We do not intend to make profits out of tele-shopping, it is an ancillary service."

Not all suppliers have found it worthwhile. Comet have already withdrawn and W. H. Smith are pulling out in April or May. But others have been added. Duff & Trotter, who provide a London-only grocery delivery service, say they are delighted with it. Their computer orders simply extend a business already set up to provide deliveries, while national chains need a complete organization to provide the goods where they are needed.

Other goods offered to Homelink members by specialist suppliers include houseplants, videos, jewelry, lingerie, china, cars and wine.

The second commercial experiment, government-funded in collaboration with Prestel and Viewtel Services, a division of the Birmingham Post group, is called Club 403 and was launched in March last year.

In order to establish which types of products and services would be most applicable to the system, Club 403 is monitoring 1,000 members around Birmingham who pay £4 per month subscription. Adaptors for existing television sets are offered free during this promotional period and Viewdata sets are about £15 to £18 a month to rent, 50 per cent more than the cost of Teletext, the one-way, information-only system provided by Ceefax and Oracle.

All the equipment used in the Prestel experiments is two-way, and there will also be developments associated with home computers. Already owners of BBC computers can buy software to link into Prestel's 250,000 pages through Micronet 800 which also offers message services and about 100 programmes to members.

How much?	To buy	Monthly rental
Average 22in television set	£299	£10 86
Teletex 22in receiver	£415	£11 95
BBC micro computers from	£399	
Prestel 20in receiver	£549	£15.95
Prestel adaptor	£258.75	£8 39
Prestel keyboards from	£134.55	£5.00
British Telecom jacks from	£18.00	

*Prices are those charged by Rediffusion, apart from the Prestel adaptor and keyboards which are obtainable through British Telecom.

The Birmingham test market, like the Homelink service, is among "financially secure" householders and the orders they place are mostly for groceries to be delivered to their doors. A small specialist foods and delicatessen delivery service is the latest innovation in response to users' demands.

Most interesting of all is a feasibility-study which began in 1979 in Gateshead, Tyne and Wear. Ross Davies, lecturer in geography at Newcastle University, in collaboration with Tesco, has been examining the possibilities of teleshopping to help the housebound – the elderly, the disabled, the young single parent, the isolated. The project was backed with about £200,000 from the Department of Trade and Industry, Gateshead Borough Council, Prestel and Tesco. The results have been remarkable.

Computers have been installed in three local libraries, one day centre and the local Social Services central office. At any of these points, orders can be taken and transmitted to Tesco's store computer, where they are converted into shopping lists. Items are then packed and delivered to customers' homes or to the day centre.

In addition, completely housebound customers are able to telephone orders to an exchange which relays their requirements to the computer. Through this contact the operators are able to check on disabled customers who live alone and make sure they are in good health. In addition to Tesco, a local baker and a chemist offer services through the computer and it is hoped that one or two other retailers will join the scheme.

There are 500 registered customers (only the disadvantaged were eligible) and 400 of these are regular weekly users of the service – a much higher proportion, says Mr Davies, than the percentage of Homelink or Club 403 members. In fact the service has a waiting list of 30 people.

This success has led to stage two which will be introduced in May – a Viewdata system which will, like the commercial projects, take the service into people's living rooms. This will run in tandem with the telephone link, retaining the personal contact.

Ross Davies also monitors similar teleshopping experiments in other countries. Britain seems ahead of the field generally but one store service in Connecticut has taken the experiment a stage further by installing video disc units in selected stores.

If a customer goes into a store to buy, say, a quilt and only a limited selection is available, a further selection of quilts can be called up on the screen and the customer can place an order through the store, pay by credit card and have the goods delivered direct to the house.

A branch of his company, Comp-U-Card, has recently opened in Britain and although video discs are not planned for this country yet, it is offering on Prestel and through Homelink about 19,000 discounted lines from gardening tools to washing machines.

Nevertheless, Ross Davies does not expect teleshopping to revolutionize shopping. It is more likely to grow gradually, he says.

"There will be shifts in work practices because it will need new distribution centres and warehouses which will become smaller and more highly automated. Fewer people will be used there, but the others will be diverted into the delivery side.

"We did have a lot of worries at first that the elderly would not like relating to a television screen to do their shopping, but they have taken to it like ducks to water.

"But teleshopping is likely to be socially divisive – particularly when cable comes. The cost of installation will rule out many people. The system could do so much for the disadvantaged and the Gateshead experiment is trying to to ensure that those most in need will benefit."

Cable television will be a major step as it will enable pictures of goods to be shown – at the moment Prestel can only produce words, numbers and graphics. Viewers will then be able to use their television sets like mail order catalogues, seeing still pictures.

"The British public sees itself as having been starved of what it wants in viewing choice", says Mr Davies. "It has a large appetite for all sorts of viewing – look at the sales of videos. Cable will give us the scope to satisfy that appetite."

How will conventional shopping be affected by all this? Debenhams have been on Prestel since its inception "more for the experience than for the extra business, which is minimal", and they have no fears that teleshopping will replace high street shopping.

"Very few of us realized how difficult it is to shop from the screen", says Charles Sebastian, director of property services at Debenhams. "As you flick through a catalogue you are making a series of subconscious judgments and decisions, but with a screen you have to press a button for every stage, calling up the section, deciding the type of goods you want and then the style, being unable to compare two pages at the same time."

There will certainly always be goods which need to be seen, felt, tried on; and for many people shopping is a social activity and the high street the focal point of their community.

But for those who would prefer not to visit several shops to compare prices when they could survey the market from an armchair, those who simply don't like shopping and those who are disadvantaged and unable to go out, two-way communication through the small screen could give a new meaning to "window shopping".

Hot tips for making the most of liquid assets

This week, in furtherance of our campaign to abolish the quiche, we begin another two-part series on wine bars which serve above-average food

Until our licensing laws are extended to permit the development of Continental-style cafés, wine bars will continue to be our main source other than pubs of a cheap snack with alcohol. Unfortunately, too many wine-bar owners have tumbled to this and therefore have little inclination to cater extensively for customers with only five or six pounds to spend. In these circumstances, why should they employ a chef to prepare hot food when they can buy in a range of pies and cold meats?

With practice it becomes fairly easy to spot these half-hearted enterprises: if the name of the wine bar is simply that of the owner with an apostrophe s tagged on (usually without even the apostrophe) it's reasonable to assume that a comparable lack of imagination has been applied to the food.

Of course, there are exceptions to this rule, and anyone approaching **Odette's Wine Bar** would have their misgivings eased by the knowledge that this is a companion bar to the well-considered restaurant with the same proprietorial name.

You will glimpse the gilded, mirror-clad restaurant as you pass downstairs to the cosy, tastefully decorated basement bar with its distinctly flirtatious atmosphere.

While downstairs diners will be struggling to escape for less than £20 a head, you can eat almost as well in the bar at half the price. Hot carrot soup might be a starter, with vegetarian moussaka, a packed fisherman's pie (£3), macaroni with spinach and ham (£3) or a chunky but tender veal casserole to follow.

You can then join in on some of the excellent puddings offered to restaurant diners – delicious banana brûlée, rice pudding or moist chocolate cake, perhaps. The moody, recorded music exhibits a lugubrious preoccupation with dead rock stars – perhaps that's why the waiters wear black?

My caveat about wine bars might also lead you to avoid **Butchers**, but the title in fact refers to the premises' former identity, not the owner's. White wall-tiles and meat racks remain, but the bar is otherwise pleasantly furnished, although the thick curtains, and its awkward location at the fork of West Hill and Upper Richmond Road, discourage casual trade.

Boltons wine bar Drawing by Francis Mosley



It is worth trying for the novelty of its Japanese food. This is no mere gimmick, since the owner's wife is Japanese, and she turns out authentic dishes, thoughtfully tailored to the wine-bar context. For instance, plates of yakitori (chicken pieces on a skewer, £1.65), kushi age (breadcrumbed, deep-fried pieces of pork, aubergine and chicken, £1.95) and gyoza (pastries filled with pork, cheese, prawn and vegetables, £1.65) will make a cheap and nourishing meal.

More substantial dishes are also offered – pork fillet in ginger sauce (£4.85), tempura (£6.80) or even a four-course menu for £12.50.

While Butchers' opening times are limited because of its suburban setting, **Boltons** takes advantage of its central position in the busy Fulham Road to offer Sunday brunches, morning coffees and afternoon "bonnes bouches" as well as stylish snacks. Such café favourites as croque-monsieur (£1.85) and assiette de charcuterie are augmented by well-prepared cassoulets (£2.50), delicious Stilton and walnut tart and risotto (£3.50).

With citron pressé and huge cups of cappucino offered in addition to well-chosen French wines, it is possible to linger in the small but attractive room with its wooden banquettes and shutters and imagine you are on the Continent – at least, until 11 pm comes along....

Stan Hey

Odette's Wine Bar, 130 Regent's Park Road, London NW1 (586 5486). Mon-Fri 12.30-3pm, Sat 7.30-10.30pm.
Butchers, 4 Upper Richmond Road, London SW15 (870 0457). Mon-Sat 7-11pm.
Boltons, 198 Fulham Road, London SW10 (352 0251). Mon-Sat 11am-11pm, Sun 10.30am-10.30pm.





REVIEW Video 1

Some knotty problems in lotus land

Yoga, like keep-fit and modern dance, is in theory an excellent subject for video treatment. Group teaching and practice methods in which students learn and develop technique by following the teacher in a sequence of movements can be adapted to the television screen with the added advantage that the model can be shown from a variety of angles.

Lyn Marshall's Everyday Yoga (112 mins) BBC Video, £39.15
Shape up with Yoga by Barbara Currie (60 mins) Mirror Vision, £19.95
Learn About Yoga by James Hewitt (54 mins) Videomedia, £24.95
Yoga for Health by Sissel Fowler (104 mins) Precision Video, £22.50

These four tapes aim to give a practical introduction to yoga through the demonstration of a series of basic postures which the student can practise at home. The spiritual side of yoga, meditation, is touched on only in the last two tapes and then briefly, as an extension of breathing and relaxation.

Lyn Marshall is particularly keen to banish any lingering doubts the viewer may have about oriental mumbo-jumbo. Forget about "weird names", "contorted positions" and "complicated breathing", she advises in her breezy introduction, seated cross-legged in a tasteful BBC mock-up of a north London the drawing-room. Indeed, if there is as little to her modified version of yoga as she suggests, the viewer may begin to wonder whether there is much point in doing it at all.

Ms Marshall is a good advertisement for her own methods, with her cheerful vitality, shapely limbs and mane of glossy hair (which has an irritating tendency to fall over her face while she is talking). But this is inadequate compensation for the tape's lack of hard information – a shame, since it is by far the best-made of the four in terms of presentation, lighting and camerawork.

Barbara Currie's *Shape up with Yoga* is another one-woman show. In 60 minutes Ms Currie rattles through a range of postures from the simple to the quite complicated as if only too aware of the march of time. In between knotting herself into a lotus with apparent effortlessness or doing complicated things with her legs while standing on her head, she breathlessly recites the benefits of these antics like a child anxiously remembering a shopping list.

The sophisticated television viewer that Lyn Marshall has in mind may well be tempted to sneer at the earnest mysticism which characterizes much of James Hewitt's tape and at times spills over into such fatuous statements as: "Just think of yourself as tall and firm like a tree. You'll find the thought will be enough." Nor is the lighting kind to the solemn and sallow trio shown practising the postures.

Still, in just under half the running time of the BBC tape, *Learn About Yoga* gives a detailed basic introduction to classical yoga with a useful range of postures clearly demonstrated. It also makes a serious attempt to justify the practice of yoga and explain its benefits, the medical angle being provided ("a doctor writes" style) by one Dr R. G. Petty.

Sissel Fowler is a kindly, therapist-like Norwegian with an incredible accent. As on the previous tape, yoga postures (interestingly, Ms Fowler is the only instructor to give the Sanskrit names) are demonstrated by a small group, this time two pupils from one of her classes and a colleague.

One problem with using several demonstrators, some of them inexperienced, is that the viewer is not always clear about the ideal to be attained, and this is not helped by crowded, unimaginatively positioned shots. However, Ms Fowler's technique is thorough and sound, and her tape, which is particularly good on relaxation, would be the most useful to follow as a structured course to replace a class.

What is extraordinary is that none of the tapes includes even one uninterrupted 30-minute practice routine, such as those offered by dance-exercise listening tapes, which the student can follow through daily or weekly instead of, or even as a supplement to, a class.

What a home learner needs is not repeated demonstration (which can be had by recourse to the search button) so much as motivation. Yoga cannot be learnt from a book, but I couldn't help thinking that the money spent on any of these tapes would be better invested in three or four terms at a good evening class.

Trudi Braun


Seeing things differently: The upside-down world of yoga

Chips that everyone can chew on

The Mighty Micro (156 mins) Precision Video, £37
Getting Down to Basic (120 mins) Guild Home Video, £46
Staring Basic With the BBC Micro Computer (60 mins) Holiday Brothers, £19.95

Anyone who finds the computer revolution bewildering and has need for a lucid introduction to the subject – its origins, development and implications – could do worse that digest *The Mighty Micro*, a six-part series made originally for television.

The writer/presenter, Dr Christopher Evans, who died of cancer soon after the series was completed, was a psychologist and computer scientist with the gift of being able to make complex ideas intelligible to the non-specialist. There is not a baffling or obscure sentence.

More than that, he was an enthusiast, and even the most non-computer oriented should find something to chew on. He covers not only the narrower technical aspects of the subject but also the social and political context in which, increasingly, the computer will operate.

It may be disconcerting for devotees of the traditional book to learn that before long they may be reading their favourite novel off a video screen but, argues Dr Evans, the cheapness of the microchip and its capacity for storing information in a very small space makes the prospect almost inevitable.

There are backward glances as well, including the speculation that the appalling slaughter of the First World War could have been mitigated had computer forecasts of casualties been available. *The Mighty Micro* is a most stimulating survey and the only reservation is that things are changing so quickly in the computer world that parts of it could soon be out of date.

While Dr Evans presents an overall view, the other two tapes are concerned with the home computer and the principles of programming. *Getting Down to Basic* is introduced by Anna Ford but her main functions are to look decorative and to hand over to the man who wrote the course, Miles Ellis of Sheffield University.

His approach is clear and well organized and his treatment thorough without being ponderous; he assumes no previous knowledge of the subject and hopes that the course will appeal to people aged nine and upwards. The cassette is divided into 12 sections and there is an accompanying book in case any points need further elucidation.

As a general grounding the tape is admirable but it does not deal with any particular computer and is not, therefore, complete in itself. However, another video company, Holiday Brothers, has produced a series of cassettes designed for such popular micros as the Sinclair Spectrum, the Commodore and the BBC.

Each tape is shorter than *Getting Down to Basic* so several are needed to cover the same ground. *Starting Basic With the BBC*, presented somewhat solemnly by David Redclift, may be less suited to the beginner than Mr Ellis's course since it tends suddenly to jump to more advanced concepts, such as graphics, that would normally be dealt with at a later stage.

The cassette contains three programmmes which can be copied and used with one's computer as a way of fixing in the mind some of the principles set out during the course. But, helpful as that might be, the view in our BBC B household was that there was little on the tape that was not adequately covered in the excellent manual that comes with the computer.

Peter Waymark

Second chance for spectacular flops

Three films just released on video have in common that they were made by directors of world renown, that they consumed huge budgets and that they flopped disastrously with both the critics and the public.

In the old days if a film failed at the box office, that was that. Now video offers another chance, for the producer to get his money back and the public to look again and judge whether the original critical view was too harsh.

The most spectacular crash of the three, bearing in mind its cost and the director's commercial track record, was Steven Spielberg's *1941* (CIC video), an attempt to make a crazy comedy out of American reaction to a supposed Japanese invasion of California.

Having made *Jaws* and *Close Encounters* Spielberg could apparently do no wrong, but *1941* was like Brighton beating Liverpool: the unthinkable happened. At $26.5m, the most expensive comedy ever made, it hit the cinemas of the world with a dull thud and quickly passed into oblivion.

I do not know whether a video reappraisal will reinstate *1941* as the movie Spielberg hoped it would be; personally I think not, but the effort is worth making. The trouble is not the idea but the execution. A less frenetic pace would have allowed the gags and situations time to develop.

Francis Ford Coppola's *One From the Heart* (CBS/Fox) was another enormously expensive film that bit the dust but is again well worth another look. Coppola's idea was apparently to set a bitter-sweet 1980s romance in the lush, studio-created setting of the traditional Hollywood musical.

The result, despite ambitious set designs and striking experiments with colour, tends to be neither one thing nor the other, but there is fascination in seeing how the concept evolved and in trying to pinpoint its flaws.

The third of the trio is *Eureka* (Warner Home Video), Nicolas Roeg's intense study of the millionaire gold prospector whose life is heading towards tragedy. Like all Roeg's films, from *Performance* to *Bad Timing*, this one is complex and powerful and has enormous cinematic flair.

The question it raises is whether brilliant technique is covering an empty shell. The suspicion has always been with Roeg that beneath the surface dazzle there is nothing very substantial and *Eureka* is probably ammunition for that view.

New releases

On surer ground, Warner Home Video is augmenting its Hollywood Gold series with four strong Hitchcock titles from the 1950s. Hollywood Gold was launched towards the end of last year with such gems as *Casablanca* and *The Maltese Falcon*; the Hitchcocks are *I Confess*, *The Wrong Man*, *Dial M For Murder* and *Strangers on a Train*.

With perfect topicality, Thames Video has just put out *Path to Perfection*, the recently screened television profile of Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean. Though the programme was made long before the pair's Olympic triumph, it includes the brilliant *Bolero* as well as seven other complete routines.

Opera buffs can no longer complain of being poorly served on video. This month sees a rash of new titles, including for the first time a series of productions from Glyndebourne, from a fairly old *Macbeth* to a *Figaro* and a *Magic Flute*. They are released by Longman Video.

P.W.

DRINK

A breath of fresh air in the clubs

Wine clubs may sound like pompous and stuffy institutions, but today's cut-throat wine market has forced many to take a more modern approach in an effort to attract new young members. For example, the International Wine & Food Society, founded by André Simon in 1933 (and now with branches all over the world), offers half-price subscriptions to anyone under 25 (£8.70 instead of £16.20). Consequently it has a thriving Young IWFS division, whose events often seem a good deal more exciting than those of its elders.

Even the grandfather of them all, the prestigious, and laboriously titled, International Exhibition Co-operative Wine Society (better known as the Wine Society), which was founded more than a century ago in the Albert Hall, is keen to acquire its fair share of young wine-drinkers. So if you lack the necessary introduction from an existing member to secure your £10 "share", try a carefully penned application letter.

The chief benefit of belonging to a wine club is access to a wide range of wines that would be difficult to find elsewhere, whether you are intending to buy in quantity or just to sample. This is doubly important if you live in a remote area with the nearest off-licence too far away to be of much use. Wine Society members living in far-flung parts of the United Kingdom such as Scotland or Northern Ireland have an added bonus, as the society's generous free carriage arrangements apply to anywhere in the UK. Other important benefits are lots of good free advice and numerous mixed-case and "opening" offers of vintage claret, port and so on. Extras such as free cellarage, talks, tastings, wine trips, dinners, and sometimes a newsletter, are also worth taking advantage of.

André Simon's International Wine & Food Society is unusual among the established wine clubs in that it does not actually sell wine but concentrates on related activities. The founder himself would probably not be displeased with the annual journal's international roll-call of Gargantuan gastronomic events. Coming up soon is a Bordeaux workshop (March 27 – April 24, £9.50) and a visit to the English Carr-Taylor vineyard on May 20 (£7.50).

Unexpectedly the Wine Society's best-sellers are not first-growth clarets or vintage ports but their own-label wines, and their latest list offers a cut-price mixed case of these (£35.75 for the red, £34.40 for the white) plus a long list of half-bottles, that dying breed, mostly priced at less than £2. Forthcoming tastings include one in Glasgow (April 17, £6.50) and one in Manchester (April 18, £6.50); and do ask about the London-based Wine Society Dining Club that arranges dinners regularly with different themes and guest speakers.

Le Club is part of the rapidly expanding Les Amis du Vin empire (£10 for life membership). Members qualify for a 5 per cent discount on all the company's wines (10 per cent on an order of 10 dozen or more) and reduced prices and priority bookings for their tastings, wine workshops and special dinners. News of Le Club's events are circulated in an informative quarterly newsletter, the latest of which includes a grand dinner with Joe Heitz, of the famous Californian Martha's Vineyard, on April 9 (£25) and an Australian wine workshop with Australian wine guru Len Evans on May 23 (£10.50).

Some of the best and cheapest mixed or single-case offers are available from W. H. Cullen's Wine Club. For £2 a year you can choose from more than 200 wines, many of them unusual, from 18 countries. The club's fine-wine and bin-end list is worth keeping an eye on, too, and members are entitled to a generous 10 per cent discount on all wines. The first tasting dinner is due to be held in May with Serge Hochar from the Lebanese Château Musar. Cullen's operate a mail-order service, but, they will also deliver free to your nearest licensed Cullen's branch, where you can pick up your order.

Jane MacQuitty

International Wine & Food Society, 32-36 Fleet Lane, London EC4 (01-236 1887).

IEC Wine Society, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire (0438 314161).

Les Amis du Vin, 7 Ariel Way, Wood Lane, London W12 (01-743 2066).

W H Cullen Wine Club, 142 Battersea Park Road, London SW11 (01-622 4467).

IN THE GARDEN

Shrubs that are a cornucopia of seasonal colour

It came, it was seen, it conquered. The *Cornus Mas*, better known as the Cornelian cherry, came to Britain with the Romans and has been winning hearts ever since. It is one of a family of very attractive trees and shrubs which are suitable for all sorts of gardens, from the very large to the small. Some are very well known but others, sadly, are rarely seen. Some authorities split the family into at least four separate groups but I am quite content to call them all cornus.

They vary considerably in size and form, from the ground hugger *C canadensis* to small trees such as *C capitata* and *C controversa*. The latter can grow to about 40ft, although they seldom do in this country.

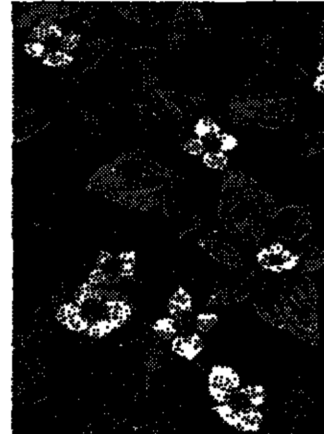
Some have attractively coloured bark, others produce magnificent autumn colours; there are also those with coloured and well formed foliage and some which are just good, well shaped trees or shrubs. Most are hardy, and apart from the form *C capitata*, they will grow in all but the most exposed conditions found in northern parts of the country.

Nor are they fussy about soil conditions: few of the varieties like to have their toes in water but as long as the site is not too shaded they will tolerate heavy soils which are not particularly well drained, and some make good waterside plants. Although a pH of 6.5 is ideal, the soil can be acid or fairly alkaline.

However, like all plants, they perform better if conditions are right. Plant them in good, moist loams in a position where they will get good light: many of the forms of cornus will grow perfectly well in full sun.

The Cornelian cherry is one of those plants which brightens up the early spring. A small tree, it is covered with tiny yellow flowers on leafless branches; at a distance it looks as if the tree is bursting with tips of yellow foliage. Ideally it should be planted against a dark background.

Much smaller are the dogwoods, vigorous deciduous shrubs whth brightly coloured stems which can be seen clearly because they are leafless. The best form is *C alba*, which comes in several cultivated varieties which give it different stem hues. *C alba* itself has deep red stems; it is a strong grower and can swamp smaller and less vigorous plants growing too close to it. It is ideal when grown in a clump so the stems are viewed en masse; it also looks lovely close to water when the reflections can be enjoyed.


Cornus canadensis

C a Kesselringii is not so vigorous and has dark browny-purple stems.

C a Elegantissima is another with red stems which helps to bring a splash of colour at this time of year; however, it is a much better summer shrub with its pleasant mixture of pale green and silver foliage. *C a Spaethii* is similar but its foliage colour is golden. This makes it one of the nicest of variegated-foliage plants.

C stolonifer also has red stems but is not really worth growing at it is not as good as *C alba*. However, its form *flaviramea*, which has yellow stems, makes a good foil to the varieties described above. All the dogwood forms have good autumn colour.

C florida is a fine specimen plant but it is difficult to grow unless a sheltered but open site can be found. Known as the flowering dogwood, it has large bracts surrounding the small, insignificant flowers, which are affected by spring frosts. The form *rubra* has a pinkish tinge to the white bracts. The main reason why this plant does not always flourish is that our irregular summers prevent the wood from ripening properly.

C Kousa is similar to *C florida* but is much hardier and will grow much better in this country. It needs protection from cold east or north winds to stop the beauty of the flowers being spoiled. The flowers are again bracts; the real flowers are small and only serve to embellish the bracts. *C Kousa* flowers in June and has white bracts. Beautiful autumn colour is another of its attractive features.

C canadensis has a creeping rootstock which has erect stems of up to 10in tall; it needs a moist soil and some shade. Its small white flowers are followed by rosy crimson berries. It is not very vigorous but once established will cover a piece of ground very well.

Small cornis shrubs will cost about £4 each; tree forms will be from £10 each.

Ashley Stephenson

Bright and early

Euphorbia fulgens is a plant with a completely different habit and flower to the better known *E pulcherrima* or poinsettia. It is much more difficult to grow and although it is by no means as magnificent in flower it is a good plant for a warm room.

E fulgens is bright scarlet, but it is possible to get many other colours – scarlets, pinks, yellows. A new yellow which took my eye is Golden Rivers. I saw it in Holland and I am assured it is available here.

The plants are easily propagated from tip cuttings inserted into a peaty compost in a warm propagating case. Like poinsettia the cut stem exudes milky latex which can be a skin irritant. A temperature of about 70°F with a high humidity is needed to encourage the cutting to root.

In the home the plants like good light and continuous warmth and should be watered sparingly. They are not suitable for a window sill as they grow untidily to a height of 3-4ft. During the summer they need a regular weak liquid feed, but in winter allow them to struggle for water and do not feed.

Proper pricking

Pricking off seedlings is a job I always enjoy. It is a simple task but one which should be done carefully.

Seedlings should be pricked off before they have formed their true leaves, but this does not mean they should not be done if you are a little late getting to them. Tomatoes should always be pricked off before the true leaves show as they suffer more than most if done late.

Prepare for pricking off by watering the seed boxes or pots the day before you lift the seedlings. If you have not been able to do this, water them there and then. Dry plants must never be moved. Watering is also necessary for the containers you put the seedlings into, as moisture for plants at this early stage is essential. Seed boxes should not be wet and sticky when plants are being inserted; even moistness which will allow the seedlings to establish themselves is the ideal.

Lift the seedling carefully so as not to damage the root system; do not try to lift too few at a time. Insert a strong label or a flat dibber under the seedlings and lift from the bottom upwards – this pushes up the soil and it is is easier to lift individual seedlings for pricking off. Make sure the plants do not have to be moved again too quickly by giving the seedlings some space now. In a normal size seed box I recommend six rows of five plants per row. Mark out the rows and make a hole with a dibber for each plant to the bottom of the tray. Lift one or more seedlings by the seed leaves, long roots and all, and place in the hole. Do not handle or bruise the stem. The seedlings should be inserted to just below the seed leaves; this is usually much deeper than they were before. Place the trays in a warm place for two or three days at the required temperature for the variety.

PREVIEW Theatre

Much ado about a new generation

Look of love: Amanda Root, leading lady in Romeo and Juliet

The Royal Shakespeare Company's season at Stratford, which opens on Thursday, promises to be particularly interesting this year because it provides the stage for the emergence of Britain's new generation of classical actors.

That is the claim made by Barry Kyle, the company director responsible for the Stratford season. The four young actors in the forefront are Kenneth Branagh, Anthony Sher, Roger Rees and Ian McDiarmid.

Kenneth Branagh opens the season playing Henry V in a new production by Adrian Noble. Branagh, who is 23, left RADA three years ago, and has since played an award-winning role in the West End production of *Another Country* as well as spending some time in Australia filming the television adaptation of D. H. Lawrence's *The Boy in the Bush*, now being screened on Channel 4.

Kyle enthuses about Branagh, describing him as "a uniquely exciting young actor, a genuine classical actor".

Branagh has been asked to plunge in at the deep end in his first season with the RSC, for in addition to *Henry V*, he plays Laertes in *Hamlet*, an athlete in *Golden Girls*, a new play by Louise Page, and the King of Navarre in *Love's Labour's Lost*.

The presentation of *Henry V* is important for the company. Kyle believes it is "a play by which the public seeks to know us, and the play through which the RSC's attitude to Shakespeare's histories is established".

The production of *Henry V* also involves a number of senior actors and actresses who are making their first appearances with the company. Brian Blessed has given up the role of Old Deuteronomy in *Cats* to play Exeter, Harold Innocent is Canterbury and Burgundy, and Patricia Routledge plays Mistress Quickly.

The cross-fertilization between stage, screen and television is emphasized with the appearance of the French actress Cecile Paoli (Bergerac's girlfriend in the television series) as the French Katherine, while Sebastian Shaw and Ian McDiarmid, respectively Darth Vader and the Emperor of the Universe in *Return of the Jedi*, take the roles of Charles VI and Chorus.

Later in the season, Ian McDiarmid plays Shylock opposite Frances Tomelty's Portia in a new production of *The Merchant of Venice*. Anthony Sher takes the title role in *Richard III* and Roger Rees, best known for his role in *Nicholas Nickleby*, will be the company's new Hamlet.

Apart from Frances Tomelty, Kyle picks out for special mention several young actresses appearing with the company – Penny Downie as Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Amanda Root in the title role in *Romeo and Juliet* and Frances Barber in *Camille*, a new play by Pam Gems.

Camille, based on *La Dame aux Camelias* by Alexandre Dumas, is one of the new plays which form the programme at Stratford's second theatre, The Other Place. This represents a deliberate change in the theatre's policy, which was considered in a full day's discussion two weekends ago when RSC directors met about 30 dramatists to examine the company's record in putting on new plays.

Barry Kyle's position as company director at Stratford (the role that Ron Daniels performs at the Barbican) is the revival of an old practice. While planning for the season is a joint task for the six directors, individual responsibilities have been more clearly defined for greater efficiency; the revival of the post of company director is partly the result of recommendations in the Priestley Report about the running of the RSC.

Christopher Warman

Henry V opens in Stratford on Thurs (0789 295623).

Armchair proms

At the Barbican next week, the RSC is inaugurating a week of armchair proms, sponsored by Royal Insurance. The aim is to give as many people as possible the chance to see the RSC's work: all the theatre's stall seats will be on sale on the day of the production at £3, less than one third of the usual cost.

All prospective promenaders will be served coffee and croissants from 8.30am, when the box office opens; seats will be available to personal callers only, with a limit of two tickets per person. There are 687 seats in the stalls, for which the normal top price is £9.50, and the RSC expects the queue to form overnight. The consolation for those waiting is that they will be under cover.

The company will be presenting *Much Ado About Nothing* on Monday and Tuesday, *The Tempest* on Wednesday and Thursday, and *Cyrano de Bergerac* on Friday and Saturday. Derek Jacobi, recent winner of four drama awards as "best actor", plays the lead in all three productions.

Barbican Armchair Proms (01-628 8795), Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2pm.



Good looks: Derek Jacobi and Sinead Cusack in Much Ado

Out of Town

BELFAST: Grand Opera House (0232 241919). The Winslow Boy by Terence Rattigan. Opens Mon at 7.30pm, until Mar 24, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm
Marius Goring, Stephanie Turner, Allan Cuthbertson in a touring production of the ever-popular drama, directed by Jeremy Sinden.

BIRMINGHAM: Repertory Theatre (021 236 4455). One for the Road by Willy Russell. Until Mar 31, Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 8pm; matinées Thurs at 2.30pm, Sat at 4pm
Willy Russell has revised and adapted his comedy and set it in Birmingham: housing estates, vandalism and middle age.

BOLTON: Octagon (0204 20661). Spring and Port Wine by Bill Naughton. Until Mar 31, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm
John Pickles, Freda Jeffries, Rosemary Chamney, directed by Felicity Taylor in one of the most popular plays by a playwright who grew up in Bolton, where the play is set.

BRIGHTON: Theatre Royal (0273 28488). Another Country by Julian Mitchell. Opens Mon at 7.45pm, until Mar 24, Mon-Thurs at 7.45pm, Fri at 8.15pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinée Thurs at 2.30pm
Touring production, with many of the original West End cast, of the award-winning play about public school life and its implications for the larger world.

BRISTOL: Old Vic (0272 24388). The Government Inspector by Nikolai Gogol. Until Apr 7, Mon-Wed at 7.15pm, Thurs-Sat at 7.45pm; matinees Thurs (not Apr 5) at 3pm, Sat 4pm. No perf Apr 2.
English version by Edward O. Marsh and Jeremy Brooks, of a great comedy. Dermot Crowley, Martin Friend, directed by Andy Hinds.

CAMBRIDGE: Arts (0223 352000). Canaries Sometimes Sing by Frederick Lonsdale. Opens Mon at 8pm, until Mar 31, Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinées Sat at 4.30pm
Cambridge Theatre Company's touring production of this comedy directed by Bill Pryde, with Madeline Smith, Diana Weston, Michael Hadley and Jeremy Nicholas.

CROYDON: Ashcroft (688 9291) Candida by George Bernard Shaw. Opens Mon at 7.45pm. Until Mar 24, Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinée Wed at 2.30pm
Jill Gascoine, Michael Craig and Arthur English lead in revival of Shaw's comedy of marital fidelity under assault.

GLASGOW: Citizens' (041 429 5561). Nagging Doubt and Cuddles by Jack Klaff. Final performance today at 7.30pm. The Survivalist by Robert Schenkken, The Fifty Minute Hour by Jack Klaff. Opens Tues at 7.30pm, until Mar 24, Tues-Sat at 7.30pm
Two double bill evenings of one-man plays, as seen recently at the Donmar Warehouse, London, performed by Jack Klaff.

HAYES: Beck (561 8371). Birthday Suite by Robin Hawdon. Opens Mon at 8pm, until Mar 24, Mon-Sat at 8pm; Sat at 5pm and 8pm; matinée Wed at 2.30pm
Trevor Bannister, Deborah Watling, Brian Murphy and Jimmy Thompson in a new comedy, currently touring provincial theatres.

HORNCHURCH: Queens Theatre (49 43333). Swag by Jan Butlin. Until Mar 24, Tues-Sat at 8pm; matinées Sat at 3pm
New comedy by successful television writer, concerning a middle-class couple who are forced to reassess everything in their lives after their home is burgled and vandalized. Jennie Linden and Doug Fisher head the cast directed by Paul Tomlinson.

LEICESTER: Haymarket (0533 539797). Passion Play by Peter Nichols. Until Apr 7, Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm, Fri and Sat at 8pm
Judy Parfitt, Barry Foster, Leslie Phillips, Heather Wright, Zena Walker, directed by Mike Ockrent in the first regional production of the award-winning comedy which looks at the strains of modern marriage. Not suitable for children. Opens at Wyndham's Theatre, London, on Apr 11.

LIVERPOOL: Everyman (051 709 4776). Shane by Bob Eaton, from the novel by Jack Shaefer. Until Mar 31, Tues-Sat at 8pm
Bob Carlton directs this stage adaptation of the western novel. Neil Boorman takes the role made famous by Alan Ladd in the film.

MANCHESTER: Royal Exchange (061 833 9833). Jumpers by Tom Stoppard. Until Apr 7, Mon-Tues at 7.30pm, Wed-Sat at 8pm; matinées Wed at 2.30pm, Sat 4pm
Julie Walters, Tom Courtenay, John Bennett, Barry Jackson, directed by Nicholas Hytner in a revival of Stoppard's farcical moral comedy.

MOLD: Theatr Clwyd (0352 55114). Courage to Kill by Lars Noren. Opens today at 7.30pm, until Apr 7, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm
Conflicts between a young man, his girlfriend and his father.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE: Playhouse (0632 323421). Strippers by Peter Terson. Until Mar 24, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm
Commissioned by the theatre, this play looks at the practice of local women who turn to striptease work to boost family income during the recession. John Blackmore directs.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE: Theatre Royal (0632 322061). RSC Season.
Julius Caesar. Wed-Fri at 7.15pm; matinée Thurs at 2pm. In repertory
Ron Daniels directs Joseph O'Conor, David Schofield, Peter McEnery, Emrys James.
Measure for Measure. Today at 2pm and 7.15pm, Mon at 7.15pm, final performance Tues at 7.15pm
Daniel Massey, Peggy Mount, Richard O'Callaghan, Juliet Stevenson, directed by Adrian Noble.



Marriage on the couch: Heather Wright and Leslie Phillips in the award-winning Passion Play at the Haymarket, Leicester

Gulbenkian Studio (0632 329974). The Time of Your Life by William Saroyan. Wed-Fri at 7.15pm; matinée Thurs at 2pm. In repertory
John Thaw, John Cater, Daniel Massey, directed by Howard Davies in a 1939 American comedy of West Coast life.
Volpone by Ben Jonson. Today at 2pm, today and Mon at 7.15pm, final performance Tues at 7.15pm
Richard Griffiths, Miles Anderson, John Cater, Gemma Jones, directed by Bill Alexander.

NOTTINGHAM: Theatre Royal (0602 42328). Strange Interlude by Eugene O'Neill. Opens Tues at 7pm, until Mar 31, Mon-Sat at 7pm, matinée Sat at 2pm
Glenda Jackson, Brian Cox, Edward Petherbridge, James Hazeldine lead the cast of this very long play, rarely revived, which charts one woman's 30-year search for identity.

SHEFFIELD: Crucible (0742 79922). Steaming by Nell Dunn. Opens Tues at 7.30pm, until Mar 24, Tues-Sat at 7.30pm; matinée Sat at 2.30pm
Touring production, featuring Anna Karen, of this award-winning comedy set in a municipal baths on Ladies' Day.

WINDSOR: Theatre Royal (95 53888). Number One by Michael Frayn from Jean Anouilh. Until Mar 31, Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinées Thurs at 2.30pm, Sat at 4.45pm
Leo McKern as a playwright whose family and friends are after his money. Directed by Robert Chetwyn.

YORK: Theatre Royal (0904 23568). Relative Strangers by Trevor Cowper. Opens Mon at 7.30pm, until Mar 24, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinée Sat at 4pm
Rodney Bewes, Prunella Gee, Joanna Dunham, Bruce Montague in a new comedy, now touring.

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS
Cottesloe (928 2252)
Today at 2.30pm and 7.30pm; Mon-Thurs at 7.30pm. In repertory with Strider – The Story of a Horse by Mark Rozovsky (Fri at 7.30pm)
David Mamet's menacing account of the shark-eat-sprat world of US real-estate salesmen has a resonance that spreads wide; a cast including Jack Shepherd and Tony Haygarth in top form does it justice.

HINKEMANN
Upstream Theatre Club (928 5394)
Today, Wed and Thurs at 8pm. In repertory
A striking rarity: Ernst Toller's grim Expressionist tragedy (1922) of an unmanned soldier's return, in a boldly successful studio production with a towering performance by John Patrick.

LEAR
The Pit (628 8795/638 8891)
Mon at 7.30pm, final performance Tues at 7.30pm. In repertory with Tartuffe by Molière (today at 2pm and 7.30pm, Fri at 7.30pm) and Molière by Mikhail Bulgakov (Wed at 7.30pm, final performances Thurs at 2pm and 7.30pm)
Probably his greatest play, Edward Bond's grim prophetic fantasy on themes from *King Lear* is even more compelling in this close-quarters studio setting. Squeamish viewers need a torture warning; otherwise Bob Peck and the cast promise a provocative, very rewarding experience.

MASTER CLASS
Wyndham's Theatre (836 3028)
Until Apr 7, Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.30pm; matinées Wed at 3pm
Stalin's 1948 pressure session with composers Prokofiev and Shostakovich gives David Pownall the setting for an alarming yet sometimes horribly funny drama, full of food for thought on art and politics and the relation between them. Timothy West's fearsome Stalin is a complex study on the grand scale.

Critics' choice

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING
Barbican (628 8795/638 8891)
Mon at 7.30pm, final performance Tues at 7.30pm. In repertory with Cyrano de Bergerac by Edmond Rostand (today at 2pm and 7.30pm, Fri at 7.30pm) and The Tempest
Absolutely not to be missed. Terry Hands's production is a sheer delight and the outstanding success of the Royal Shakespeare Company's current Barbican season. Derek Jacobi and Sinead Cusack make a Benedict and Beatrice of exceptional wit, intelligence and charm.

NOISES OFF
Savoy (836 8888)
Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.30pm; matinées Wed at 3pm
After two years in London, Michael Frayn's farce of backstage mishaps and misbehaviour during a ghastly rep-fodder sex comedy is still wildly funny. Amanda Barrie excels herself as the veteran character charlady, and several newcomers make a bright showing in a production that gets slicker with each change of cast.

PACK OF LIES
Lyric (437 3686)
Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinées Wed at 3pm
Hugh Whitemore's powerful study of a decent couple whose quiet suburban life is destroyed by a Kroger-style spy case. Judi Dench and Michael Williams find impressively tragic performances in the most humdrum surroundings.

THE RIVALS
Olivier (928 2252)
Thurs and Fri at 7.15pm. In repertory with Jean Seberg by Marvin Hamlisch, Christopher Adler and Julian Barry (today at 2pm and 8pm) and Saint Joan
Peter Wood's sparkling revival of Sheridan has Geraldine McEwan as a young but hilariously affected Mrs Malaprop, and Sir Michael Hordern gouty and irascible as Sir Anthony Absolute.

SAINT JOAN
Olivier (928 2252)
Mon-Wed at 7.15pm; matinée Wed at 2pm. In repertory with The Rivals and Jean Seberg
In Ronald Eyre's spectacular production, Shaw's great play fills epically this vast auditorium without ever quite stilling the doubts it always raises. Strong cast led by Frances de la Tour's gritty, rustic visionary.

THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL
Duke of York's (836 5122)
Until Mar 24, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinées Wed and Sat at 3pm
John Barton's handsome and intelligent production has Donald Sinden and Beryl Reid in their broadest comic vein, plus Nicola Pagett and Clive Francis.

SEE HOW THEY RUN
Shaftesbury (930 8577)
Until Apr 21, Mon-Fri at 8pm, Sat at 5.30pm and 8.30pm; matinées Wed at 3pm
Ray Cooney's all-star revival (Maureen Lipman, Derek Nimmo, Christopher Timothy, Michael Denison) of Philip King's glorious wartime farce featuring a village spinster and a stageful of real and spurious vicars.

THE TEMPEST
Barbican (628 8795/638 8891)
Wed at 7.30pm, final performances Thurs at 2pm and 7.30pm. In repertory with Cyrano de Bergerac and Much Ado About Nothing
Derek Jacobi's youngish, vulnerable Prospero may be a departure from tradition, but Ron Daniels's highly enjoyable production gives full weight to the magic, comedy, near-tragedy and spectacle in this difficult play, with Mark Rylance's Ariel and Bob Peck's Rastafarian Caliban outstanding.

PREVIEW Galleries

Critics' choice

GEORGE HOOPER
Odette Gilbert Gallery, 5 Cork Street, London W1 (437 3175). Until Apr 6, Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm
George Hooper, 74 this year, has mostly kept out of the public eye since he won the Royal Academy Gold Medal for his painting "Labour" in 1933. There have been occasional shows in London but this is the first-ever retrospective of his work, which ranges from the sober, Slade-style early works to the glowing recent still-lifes in brilliant fauvist colours.

TREASURES FROM DULWICH
Agnew, 43 Old Bond Street, London W1 (629 6176). Until Apr 19, Mon-Fri 9.30am-5.30pm.
Rare opportunity to see in the West End such stunners from the Dulwich Picture Gallery collection as Rembrandt's *Girl at a Window* and Poussin's *Rinaldo and Armida*.

THE PRE-RAPHAELITES
Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (821 1313). Until May 28, Mon-Sat 10am-5.50pm, Sun 2-5.30pm.
The first major show for many years, and first ever on this scale, devoted to Pre-Raphaelitism as a movement rather than to any individual member of the brotherhood. Interest is concentrated on the years (1848-60) when it really was a movement, with something approaching a shared aesthetic as well as close personal ties of friendship; but the exhibition also shows what happened to the various principal figures after they drifted apart, and documents a number of followers and fellow-travellers.

WILLIAM MORRIS TODAY
Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London SW1 (930 3647). Until Apr 29, Tues-Sat noon-9pm
An exhibition to mark the 150th anniversary of the birth of William Morris, epic poet, storyteller, inspiration of the arts and crafts revival and utopian socialist, whose influence lives on in his bold and naturalistic designs for wallpaper and fabrics. The exhibition sets Morris's words and ideas in the context of both Victorian Britain and the present day.

THREE BRITISH MUSEUM SHOWS
Paintings and Drawings Gallery, British Museum, London WC1 (636 1555). Until Apr 29, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2.30-6pm
Etchings by Rembrandt depicting scenes from the Passion are shown with some of his more unusual etchings of contemporary characters in Amsterdam. Drawings by Claude Lorrain, Carracci and others reflect the influence of landscape on Italian schools of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. And an anonymous private collector has lent a selection of his German drawings, including works by Dürer, Baldung and Shongauer.

THE CITY'S PICTURES
Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (638 4141). Tues-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun noon-6pm
A semi-permanent display of painting and sculpture belonging to the Corporation of London is on show for the rest of the year. Among the 70 or so works are several well-known Pre-Raphaelite paintings, including Holman-Hunt's *The Eve of St Agnes* and Millais's *My First Sermon* and *My Second Sermon*. There is also a room of Matthew Smith oil-paintings and a selection of photogravures by Edward Curtis.

SHERRIFFS
Main and terrace foyers, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (928 2033). Until Mar 24, Mon-Sat 10am-11pm
Probably best remembered for his regular caricatures of film personalities in *Punch* between 1948 and his death in 1961, Robert Stewart Sherriffs first achieved fame in the 1920s when he illustrated a series of barbed impressions of current celebrities by Beverley Nichols in *The Sketch*. His crisp and economical line probably owed something to his early training as an heraldic artist, but his sense of character was all his own.

TWENTIETH-CENTURY PORTRAITS
National Portrait Gallery, London WC2 (930 1552). Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm
The National Portrait Gallery's new display of famous people who have contributed to the character and development of the past 80 years. They include William Roberts's double portrait of John Maynard Keynes and his wife Lydia Lopokova; Ben Nicholson's self-portrait with Barbara Hepworth; and Bryan Organ's portrait of the Prince of Wales.

THE OMEGA WORKSHOPS
Crafts Council Gallery, 12 Waterloo Place, Lower Regent Street, London SW1 (930 4811). Ends tomorrow, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm
Show commemorating the Bloomsbury Group's largest single contribution to the visual arts in Britain. The artist-decorators involved were led by Roger Fry and included Duncan Grant, Vanessa Bell, Gaudier-Brzeska and Wyndham Lewis. Their highly coloured products included furnishing and decoration of all kinds, some of it now quaintly period and some amazingly modern.

THE GENIUS OF VENICE 1500-1600
Royal Academy, Piccadilly, London W1 (734 9052). Ends tomorrow, Sat and Sun 10am-6pm
The sixteenth century was the most glorious epoch for Venetian art. Carpaccio's painting "The Lion of St Mark" symbolizes Venetian power and introduces an exhibition of 300 masterpieces which includes the recently restored del Piombo "Judgment of Solomon".



IMAGE OF THE WEEK: Ann Hathaway's cottage at Stratford-upon-Avon by Bill Brandt (see right)

Photography

DAVID HOCKNEY: PHOTOGRAPHS
National Museum of Photography, Prince's View, Bradford (0274 727488). Until Mar 25, Tues-Sat noon-8pm, Sun 2.30-6pm
Hockney's collection of personal photographs is a visual mnemonic, an intimate journal of friends and travel. The photographs in this show differ from the main body of work in that in them he makes a deliberate attempt to convey time and space by showing a single subject pictured in a variety of ways over a period of time. Each large piece is constructed from hundreds of 6in x 4in colour prints. His "experiments", as he likes to describe them, are attempts to push photography into new expressive areas. Audacious, arrogant, but wonderfully seductive.

DAVID BAILEY: BLACK AND WHITE MEMORIES
Plymouth Arts Centre, 38 Looe Street, Plymouth (0752 660060). Until Apr 7, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm
Portraits and fashion pictures from 1948 to 1969 by a photographer who is synonymous with the swinging sixties. Intriguing stage-managed view of a period the photographer helped to create.

BILL BRANDT: LITERARY BRITAIN
Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (01-589 6371). Until May 20, Mon-Thurs 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm
The V & A had originally hoped to stage a retrospective of Brandt's work as an eightieth birthday tribute to the master. But Brandt, with sad prescience, thought this unwise in case he "didn't make it": he died last December. This show directs our attention back to the quiet landscapes he published as a book in 1951 with an accompanying text by acknowledged writers. They represent a romantic style which he was later to abandon. Many of the exhibited prints were made by Brandt himself. Not to be missed.

MARTIN CHAMBI: PHOTOGRAPHS IN CONTEXT II
The Photographers' Gallery, 5 & 8 Great Newport Street, London WC1 (01-240 1969). Open Thurs, until Apr 14, Tues-Sat 11am-7pm
Second overtly didactic show in the "Photographs in Context" series. This one, organized by Paul Yule, champions the work of Martin Chambi, a little known Peruvian photographer whose main body of work documents both rich and poor inhabitants of Peru during the early part of this century. Yule places Chambi's work alongside already accepted masters such as Cartier-Bresson, Lartigue and Eugene Smith, and argues forcefully that Chambi's synthesis, arrived at in isolation from European influences, is equally important.

BRIAN HARRIS
Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (638 4141). Until Mar 26, Mon-Sat 10am-10pm
Twenty-five black and white photographs by one of *The Times's* photographers, which show the diversity expected from a working photo-journalist.

JULIA MARGARET CAMERON
John Hansard Gallery, The University, Southampton (0703 559122). Until Apr 28, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm
Incredible though it may seem, Julia Margaret Cameron was an amateur given a camera by her daughter in 1863. Through Alfred, Lord Tennyson, a neighbour on the Isle of Wight, she was soon photographing many well known literary figures of the day: Sir John Herschel, Thomas Carlyle and Holman-Hunt are just three among a galaxy of craggy-faced Victorians seen in a romantic pictorialist way.

EUGENE ATGET: PHOTOGRAPHS OF OLD FRANCE
Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (402 6075). Until Mar 25, daily 10am-5.30pm
Eugene Atget, who died in 1927, saw much of his work as merely reference from which painters could make art. His subject was often Paris, or as here, the Ile-de-France. He pointed his camera at whatever interested him and saw what he wanted to record with astonishing clarity. The legacy of his documentation is unsurpassed.

ANGUS McBEAN
National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (633 0880). Until Mar 24, Mon-Sat 11am-10pm
Retrospective show for the doyen of theatre photographers, who combined theatre work with portraiture, where he employed the language of the surreal. The images, though often bizarre, are always inventive and laced with visual puns and humour. McBean's world is a stage-managed and refined place which is always striving to extol the virtue of beauty. A visual treat which is not to be missed.

THE BRIDGE
Impressions Gallery, 17 Colliergate, York (0904 54724). Until Mar 24, Tues-Sat 10am-6pm
New work by Victor Burgin, whose conceptual explorations continue to blur the distinction between art and photography. Here he takes as his starting point that moment in Hitchcock's *Vertigo* when Madeleine throws herself into San Francisco Bay. Burgin's relentless demands on the viewer make him one of the most difficult but sometimes most rewarding artists to come to terms with.

Dance

BALLET RAMBERT
Sadler's Wells (278 8916). Until Mar 31, Mon-Sat at 7.30pm, matinées Tues and Mar 28 at 2pm
Christopher Bruce's *Intimate Pages*, to Janáček's music, has its London premiere Mon and runs all next week; strongly recommended. With it Mon-Wed are Kokoshka's *Murderer Hope of Women* and Robert North's flamenco-flavoured *Entre dos Aquas*. Joining *Intimate Pages* in the programme Thurs-Sat are the Bridget Riley's *Colour Moves*, and Richard Alston's *Chicago Brass*.

ROYAL BALLET
Covent Garden (240 1066). Wed, Thurs, Fri at 7.30pm
MacMillan's masterly *Song of the Earth* is danced by Lesley Collier, David Wall and Anthony Dowell (Wed) or Marcia Haydée, Richard Cragun and Dowell (Fri). With it are the less widely admired *Different Drummer* and Robbins's *Afternoon of a Faun*. On Thurs, Wayne Eagling dances his first Mercutio with Stephen Jefferies and Marguerite Porter as Romeo and Juliet.

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET
Bristol Hippodrome (0272 299444). Today at 2.30 and 7.30pm
Birmingham Hippodrome (021 622 7846). Mon to Mar 24 at 7.30pm, matinées Tues, Sat at 2.30pm
Graham Lustig makes his debut today in the successful new production of *Petrushka*. With it are *Raymonda Act III*, plus Bintley's *Choros* today and *The Winter Play* next Fri, Sat. *Coppelia* is given Mon, Tues, and Bintley's epic *The Swan of Tuonela* with music by Sibelius on Wed, Thurs.

FESTIVAL BALLET
Plymouth, Royal (0752 669595). Today at 2.30 and 7.30pm
Liverpool, Empire (051 709 1555). Mon to Mar 24 at 7.30pm, matinee Sat at 2.30pm
Don't miss *Onegin* (Mon-Wed), Cranko's romantic tragedy to a Tchaikovsky score. Today and Thurs-Sat you can see *Scheherazade* with Ben Stevenson's *Four Last Songs* and dances from Bournonville's *Napoli* and *Flower Festival at Genzano*.

VIVA 84
Sadler's Wells (278 8916). Sun at 7.30pm
Dancers from Ballet Rambert, the youth dance company Fusion, some dancers from The Hague and an American dancer-choreographer, Katya Bloom, are taking part in a benefit performance for the Chile Committee for Human Rights.

Theatre: Irving Wardle and Anthony Masters; Photography: Michael Young; Galleries: John Russell Taylor; Dance: John Percival

PREVIEW Films

Dressed to thrill with the glories of British theatre

"Let them know you're coming", advises Sir, the actor-manager, in *The Dresser*, before milking his curtain call outrageously (he appears in stages: first a hand, then his face, then the whole man). The film itself reaches Britain in similar stepping-stone fashion: critical success in the United States: five Oscar nominations (including best actor, best picture and best director); a Silver Bear award at the Berlin Film Festival (for Albert Finney).

The film's selection for this year's Royal Film Performance has perhaps less significance (who remembers last year's choice, a soggy garland of clichés called *Table for Five*?). But it is reassuring to know the Queen will be watching something decent, and something native.

For director Peter Yates, the film version of Ronald Harwood's play marks a welcome return to his roots in British theatre and cinema. Before *Bullitt* (1968) took him off on a wild goose chase through Hollywood genres, Yates spent some years associated with Woodfall Films and the Royal Court Theatre; he also trained as an actor, enduring repertory stints in archetypal provincial theatres – Farnham, Worthing, Richmond, Dundee.

Indeed, Yates views *The Dresser* as a means of advertising the glories of British theatre, and the need for their continuance.

Harwood's play was entirely set backstage at the provincial theatre where Sir's troupe perform *King Lear* despite the ravages of Hitler's bombs, fractious actors and Sir's own crumbling memory. In Harwood's new version the dressing-room remains the focal point (the theatre is the Bradford Alhambra), but the cameras venture outside to emphasize traits of character. Finney's stentorian voice, for instance, stops a train pulling out of York without him.

The film preserves two stage performances. Lockwood West repeats his small, choice part as the elderly actor suddenly playing the Fool; and Tom Courtenay returns to films after a 12-year gap as Norman, the homosexual dresser who cajoles and cossets the fraught star. "It's much nicer than having to whack it to the audience every night in the theatre", Courtenay told one interviewer, though under the close scrutiny of Yates's cameras we are hardly aware of any soft-pedalling.

Sir himself – once Freddie Jones – is now Albert Finney: too young, perhaps, to inhabit the part completely, though consummate technique and the make-up man work miracles.

Geoff Brown

The Dresser opens in London on Tues at the Odeon Haymarket (930 2738). The Royal Film Performance is on Mon at the Odeon Leicester Square (930 6111) in aid of the Cinema and Television Benevolent Fund.



Tea for two: Tom Courtenay (left) as the homosexual dresser Norman and Albert Finney as Sir playing the part of King Lear

Critics' choice

THE BIG CHILL (15)
Cinecenta Panton Street (930 0631)
Classic Oxford Street (636 0310)
Odeon Kensington (602 6644)
Screen on the Green (226 3520)
Warner West End (439 0791)
Former students from the 1960s gather at a funeral and survey the effects of time. A comic collage of human behaviour, slightly shallow but with neat, vivid ensemble playing (Tom Berenger, William Hurt, Kevin Kline). The second film of writer-director Lawrence Kasdan, previously acclaimed for *Body Heat*.

CAN SHE BAKE A CHERRY PIE? (15)
Classic Tottenham Court Road (636 6148)
A self-obsessed, divorced health addict meets a neurotic, abandoned wife on a Manhattan sidewalk; they enjoy a fraught romance. This could only be the work of director Henry Jaglom, the wayward American independent who struck comic gold with the low-budget, semi-improvised *Sitting Ducks*. A marvellous exploration of human relationships, true and tender, and radiantly droll. As in the earlier film, Michael Emil talks his head off; Karen Black gives her best performance to date.

CARMEN (15)
Curzon (499 3737/8)
Carlos Saura's second collaboration with dancer Antonio Gades and his troupe. Rehearsals for a flamenco-style *Carmen* ballet are interwoven with a weak story of jealous love. Less potent than the magical *Blood Wedding*, but the dancing remains irresistible. With Gades and Laura del Sol.

THE HONORARY CONSUL (18)
Classic Oxford Street (636 0310)
Classic Haymarket (839 1527)
Adaptation of Graham Greene's novel with Michael Caine both comic and touching as the disreputable and boozy title character and Richard Gere as Dr Plarr. Directed by John Mackenzie, with Bob Hoskins.

THE LEOPARD (PG)
Gate Mayfair (493 0791)
After 20 years, Luchino Visconti's beleaguered *Leopard* changes its spots and emerges uncut, with Italian dialogue and superior colour. A magnificent distillation of Giuseppe di Lampedusa's novel about nineteenth-century Italy in transition; the screen throbs with passionate acting, opulent decor and a fine Brucknerian score by Nino Rota. With Burt Lancaster, Claudia Cardinale, Alain Delon.

LIANNA (18)
Cinecenta Panton Street (930 0631)
Screen on Baker Street (935 2772)
Screen on the Hill (435 3366) until Thurs
A married woman drifts into a lesbian relationship with her night-school teacher – a situation presented by American writer-director John Sayles with tact, wit and clever use of modest resources. Marvellous lead performances from Linda Griffiths, Jane Hallaren and Jon DeVries.

LOVE STREAMS (15)
Premiere Cinema (formerly Classic Shaftesbury Avenue) (734 5414)
Fraught family ties, raw emotions, spiralling neuroses: John Cassavetes's latest film is stamped with his personal style, although the material stems from a play by Ted Allan. It is wildly uneven, often baffling, but Cassavetes continues to touch nerves that no other American director seems to find. Cassavetes and Gena Rowlands star as brother and sister, battling with life and each other.

REAR WINDOW (PG)
ABC Edgware Road (723 5901)
Plaza Piccadilly Circus (437 1234)
One of Hitchcock's most audacious thrillers returns to public prominence after years in limbo. James Stewart stars as the photographer who locates a nasty murder in his telephoto lens while nursing a broken leg. Made in 1954, with Grace Kelly, Wendell Corey, Thelma Ritter, Raymond Burr.

THE RIGHT STUFF (15)
ABC Fulham Road (370 2636)
Warner West End (439 0791)
Tom Wolfe's novel about America's space pioneers, brought to the screen as a sumptuous, three-hour epic. The style veers between irreverent comedy and worshipful, patriotic drama; compulsive viewing with sharp insights into space-race ballyhoo. Written and directed by Philip Kaufman; with Ed Harris, Scott Glenn and Sam Shepard.

RUMBLE FISH (18)
Lumiere (836 0691)
Francis Coppola's latest film defies all categories: a black and white fantasy about youthful hopes and alienation, shot with determined poetic intent and meshed with a riveting rhythmic score by Stewart Copeland (from the rock group The Police). Featured players Matt Dillon and Mickey Rourke effortlessly merge into the crazy fabric of shadows, scudding clouds and surreal compositions. Based on a novel by S. E. Hinton.

STAR 80 (18)
ABC Fulham Road (370 2636)
Gate Bloomsbury (837 1177)
Bob Fosse's biography of a doomed *Playboy* pin-up and starlet, Dorothy Stratten; falls too promptly into unadulterated clichés, although the seedier side of show business is explored with relish. Eric Roberts (as the murderous husband) offers a striking portrait of unhinged mediocrity; Mariel Hemingway as the starlet copes well with a passive role.

TESTAMENT (PG)
Gate Bloomsbury (837 1177)
Gate Notting Hill (221 0220) until Thurs
Nuclear war comes to a small American town; the doomsday narrative unfolds with no flinching, no jokes, and a strong emphasis on maternal love. Jane Alexander stars as the *mother* holding on to family life while society crumbles. The feature film debut of director Lynne Littman, experienced in television and documentary. With William Devane, Ross Harris and Roxana Zal.

TO BE OR NOT TO BE (PG)
Classic Chelsea (352 5096)
Classic Tottenham Court Road (636 6148) from Tues
Odeon Haymarket (930 2738) until Mon
Odeon Kensington (602 6644) and national release
Ernst Lubitsch's acerbic comedy wartime classic about Polish actors outwitting Nazi minions, inoffensively remade as a vehicle for Mel Brooks and his wife Anne Bancroft. The original script's brilliant structure survives unaltered (along with much dialogue); the playing is agreeable, provided one forgets Jack Benny and Carole Lombard. Directed by Alan Johnson; with Tim Matheson, Charles Durning, José Ferrer.

UNDER FIRE (15)
Odeon Marble Arch (723 2011/2)
Three journalists covering the Nicaraguan revolution in 1979 find their personal and professional allegiances pushed to breaking point. An old Hollywood plot rattles about in Roger Spottiswoode's thriller like old dried peas in a gleaming new pod. But the action is excitingly staged, and Spottiswoode finds good use for Nick Nolte's monolithic presence. Joanna Cassidy and Gene Hackman co-star.

VASSA (PG)
Academy 2, Oxford Street (437 5129)
Gleb Panfilov's ornate, expanded and updated version of Gorky's play about a matriarch determined to preserve her family business. Sometimes the film runs aground on its own sumptuous furnishings and lengthy dialogue, but the end has an arresting ambivalence. With Inna Churikova.

VERTIGO (PG)
Classic Chelsea (352 5096)
Electric Screen (formerly Electric, Portobello Road) (229 3694)
Plaza Piccadilly Circus (437 1234)
Long-awaited revival of Hitchcock's 1958 thriller, in which James Stewart's ex-detective with a fear of heights is obsessed and confused by Kim Novak. Sleek and preposterous on the surface, with turbulent emotions bubbling underneath (admirably complemented by Bernard Herrmann's anguished score).

The information in this column was correct at the time of going to press. Late changes are often made and it is advisable to check, using the telephone numbers given.

Getting the flavour of Guinness



Alec Guinness has been called a mould waiting for characters to be poured in. He is a man who expresses himself entirely through his acting and has virtually no public persona except that created by his performances.

He rarely gives interviews, his private life is more private than that of almost any other actor of his standing and on the rare occasions he is persuaded to appear in public – usually to collect an award – he comes and goes with the minimum of words or fuss.

He made one film as an extra in the 1930s but his career proper started in 1946 when he played Herbert Pocket in David Lean's finely crafted version of *Great Expectations*. His next film, also for Lean, was *Oliver Twist* in which, unrecognizable with his hooded eyes and huge hooked nose, he gave an unforgettable portrayal of Fagin.

If Lon Chaney was billed as "the man of a thousand faces", Guinness threatened to run him close. In *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, the first of his several Ealing films, he took eight parts, all different enough to be convincing, and played with the wit demanded of that most celebrated of black comedies.

During the 1950s Guinness moved from being an essentially English player to international stardom, winning an Oscar for his subtle portrait of Colonel Nicholson leading the British prisoners of war against the Japanese in *The Bridge On the River Kwai*.

Since then he has played character parts in epics like *Lawrence of Arabia* and *The Fall of the Roman Empire* and turned up as Ben Kenobi in the *Star Wars* series, but without adding substantially to the reputation he established in the 1940s and early 1950s.

On April 2 Guinness will be 70 and to mark the occasion BBC2 is reviving four of his early films, starting on Friday with that marvellous Ealing comedy, *The Lavender Hill Mob* (5.40-7pm). It contains one of Guinness's richest performances, the more effective for being deliberately understated.

He is the mild-mannered bank clerk (pictured above) who decides to break out of his humdrum existence by robbing his own bank of gold bullion. The essence of Guinness emerges in comparison with Stanley Holloway, who plays the film's other main character.

Holloway is Holloway, the same warm-hearted extrovert that he projected with little variation throughout his career. But Guinness's Henry Holland is a singular creation, his diffidence constantly emphasized by the subtle deployment of voice and gesture.

Quite different again is the sinister Professor Marcus, leading his band of train robbers in *The Ladykillers*. That is the second film in the season, which also includes *Kind Hearts* and *Great Expectations*.

Peter Waymark

Also recommended
Arrowsmith (1931): Ronald Colman as the dedicated doctor looking for a cure for the plague in John Ford's version of the novel by Sinclair Lewis (Channel 4, today, 2.25-4.10pm).
The Importance of Being Earnest (1952): Anthony Asquith's faithful adaptation of the Oscar Wilde comedy, with a dominating performance by Edith Evans as Lady Bracknell (BBC2, today, 4.50-6.25pm).
Violette Noiziere (1977)*: Isabelle Huppert leading a double life in Claude Chabrol's recreation of a French murder case of the 1930s (BBC2, today, 11pm-1.05am).
They Drive by Night (1940): Fast moving Warner Brothers melodrama of adultery, intrigue and murder with George Raft, Humphrey Bogart and Ida Lupino. (Channel 4, today, 11.10pm-12.55am).
The River (1950): Jean Renoir's lyrical study of adolescent rivalry between three English girls in India, filmed by the Ganges (BBC2, tomorrow, 3.35-5.10pm).
Valentino (1977)*: Ken Russell's characteristically idiosyncratic biopic of the silent star which marked the acting debut of Rudolf Nureyev (Channel 4, Tues, 9-11.25pm).
Pursued (1947): Robert Mitchum as the orphan who becomes involved in a family feud in an offbeat Western directed by Raoul Walsh (BBC1, Fri, 10.50pm-12.35am).
*First British television showing

PREVIEW Music

Contrasts in Camden

Amina Claudine Myers, whose trio begins a typically varied Camden Jazz Week at Logan Hall, Bedford Way, London WC1, on Monday evening, is a modern Mary Lou Williams: a jazz pianist whose excellence transcends gender in a fiercely male-orientated world.

Her outstanding achievement to date has probably been her LP in tribute to Bessie Smith; perhaps on Monday, with Jerome Harris on bass and the impressive Pheeroan Ak Laff on drums, she will give us some of her moving blues singing.

Sharing the Monday bill are the Ganelin Trio and John Surman, leading a quintet whose configuration goes back a dozen years. Kenny Wheeler (trumpet), John Taylor (piano), Chris Lawrence (bass) and John Marshall (drums) know Surman's music, and each other's, with an intimacy which must provide a memorable set. Tuesday is "fusion" night: Nucleus, Ian Carr's group, now in its umpteenth edition, deserves to steal the honours.

Wednesday night is unmissable. John Steven's Folkus, a new 10-piece group featuring the guitarists Nigel Moyse and Ed Speight, opens the proceedings, followed by the duo of Dollar Brand, the wonderful South African pianist, and Max Roach, the great bebop drummer.

On Thursday, the Ian Stewart-John Picard Band sets the scene in a bluesy way for a quintet led by Johnny Griffin and Arnett Cobb – tough tenors indeed.

Don Weller and Bryan Spring join the American trumpeter Ted Curson on Friday night; the pianist Errol Clarke, an under-appreciated fixture of the London scene, should give Curson, who shone with Mingus 20 years ago, something to think about. Steps Ahead, a lukewarm American neo-fusion quintet, are the other attraction.

The week ends with a "Saturday Streetdance" session (2.30-11pm) featuring breakdancers, African musicians, American harmolodic funkateers and Brazilian percussionist Nana Vasconcelos.

Richard Williams

Rock & Jazz

SPHERE
Tonight, Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Frith Street, London W1 (439 0747)
A last chance to catch this perfectly balanced quartet, whose music springs from the fount of Thelonious Monk but also possesses the intricate delicacy of the MJQ.

JULIAN COPE
Tonight, Bradford University; Mon, Coasters, Edinburgh; Tues, Newcastle City Hall; Wed, Rock City, Nottingham; Thurs, Hacienda, Manchester; Fri, Royal Court, Liverpool
Scott Walker's hooded romance plus Syd Barrett's madcap dancing equals . . . a Kevin Ayers for the 1980s. In other words, a diverting under-achiever.

TED CURSON
Tonight, Premises Arts Centre, Norwich; tomorrow, Joiners Arms, Southampton; Mon, Queen's Hall, Leicester; Wed, Albion Rooms, Derby
The lively American hard-bop trumpeter is joined by the driving quartet of Don Weller and Bryan Spring.

GANELIN TRIO
***Tonight, Phoenix Arts, Leicester;* tomorrow, Strathallan Hotel, *Birmingham*; Mon, Camden Jazz Week (see left)**
Understandably, this extraordinary Russian trio has provoked a mixed reaction. They should be seen, however, for their unique approach to jazz-derived improvisation.

STYLE COUNCIL
Tonight, Ipswich Gaumont; tomorrow, Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham; Mon, Newcastle City Hall; Tues, Glasgow Appollo
Even more pretentious than the Clash, if such a thing is possible, but redeemed by Mick Talbot's excellent keyboard touches.

THE SMITHS
Tonight, Loughborough University; Tues, Tower Ballroom, Birmingham
Songs as limp as the gladioli with which Morrissey poses. The Smiths make as good a case as England's football fans for the reintroduction of National Service.

THOMPSON TWINS
Tonight, Birmingham Odeon; Mon, De Monfort Hall, Leicester; Fri Haysfield Hall, Belfast
Glossy, tuneful, empty.

HOWARD JONES
Tonight, Leeds University; tomorrow, Newcastle City Hall; Mon, Glasgow Pavilion; Tues, Royal Court, Liverpool; Thurs, Queen's University, Belfast
The Gilbert O'Sullivan of the *Smash Hits* set.

CARMEL
***Tonight, Reading University*; tomorrow, Victoria Palace, Victoria Street, London SW1 (834 1317); Mon, Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone**
Rapidly being overtaken by Sadé, whose "Your Love is King" can boast a measure of genuine soul.

JOHN COOPER CLARKE
Tomorrow, Ronnie Scott's Club
The latest Sunday night attraction at Ronnie's, Cooper Clarke promises new material for the occasion.

DEE DEE BRIDGEWATER
Mon to Sat, Ronnie Scott's Club
Older club-goers may remember her appearance on Frith Street with the Thad Jones-Mel Lewis band about a decade ago; in recent years she has leaned quite effectively towards the Randy Crawford market.

HOWARD RILEY
Fri, Music Box, Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191)
With Val Marik on bass and John Stevens on drums, pianist Riley pays a tribute to Thelonious Monk, promising such lesser- known works as "Pannonica" and "Introspection" alongside the favourites.

JOHN HIATT
***Fri, Half Moon* 93 Lower Richmond Road, London SW15 (788 2387)**
One of the better-kept secrets of contemporary American popular music, *Hiatt should be at least as* well known as, say, Tom Petty.

Concerts

E PLURIBUS UNUM
Today, 7.30pm, Rosslyn Hill Chapel, Rosslyn Hill, London NW3 (340 8321)
In an all-American programme packed with world premieres Circle perform Stephen Montague's *E Pluribus Unum*, then brand new works, as yet unnamed, by Christian Wolff and William Smith. Two classics are also included: Cage's *Amores* and Cowell's *Ostinato Pianissimo*.

SZYMANOWSKI
Today, 8pm, Art Centre, Warwick University, Coventry
The Warsaw Philharmonic under Kazimierz Kord plays the orchestral version of Szymanowski's Nocturne and Tarantella, an extreme rarity. Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 4 is also on the programme, and Andrzej Kulka solos in Beethoven's Violin Concerto.

BISHOP KOVACEVICH
Tomorrow, 3pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 6544)
Stephen Bishop Kovacevich gives one of his rare London piano recitals, including Beethoven's "Waldstein" Sonata, Brahms's *Klavierstücke* Opp 116 and 117, and Berg's Sonata.

LOCRIAN QUARTET
Tomorrow, 6.30pm, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1 (242 8032)
The Locrian Quartet offers a nicely balanced programme of late quartets by Elgar and Dvořák (Op 105), and Shostakovich's early No 1.

TIPPETT
Tomorrow, 7pm, St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (222 1061)
Peter Turton conducts the London College of Music Orchestra in Tippett's Handel Fantasia (with John McCabe, piano). Also to be heard are Kabalevsky's *Colas Breugnon* Overture and Brahms's Symphony No 4.

DIVERTIMENTI
Tomorrow, 7.30pm, Shaw Theatre, Euston Road, London NW1 (388 7727, credit cards 387 6993)
Puccini's *I Cristantemi* and Françaix's *Sei Preludi* are performed by Divertimenti under Nicholas Kraemer. The London premiere of Colin Matthews's Divertimento is also given, and Ernst Kovacic solos in Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*.



Puccini: Divertimenti play his I Cristantemi tomorrow

BRITISH STRING QUARTETS
Tues, 6pm, Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 6544)
The Park Lane Group's "British String Quartets" series continues with Alan Bush's *Dialectic*, one of his few really good pieces, and the first performances of Edward Cowie's Quartet No 4 and a new work by Alun Hoddinott.

ASKELL MASSON
Tues, 7.30pm, Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (935 2141, credit cards 930 9232)
This concert is devoted to the Icelandic composer Askell Másson and includes his *Blik*, *Talkn*, *Blue Light*, *Drop of Water*, *Kadenza* and a Marimba Sonata.

MAXWELL DAVIES
Tues, 7.45pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall
The Fires of London give the world premiere of Maxwell Davies's *The No 11 Bus*. They also perform his *Antechrist*, Ross Edwards's *Laikan* and Anthony Payne's *Mayfly's Day*.

WALTON, ELGAR
Wed, 7.30pm, Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (928 3191, credit cards 928 6544)
It should be interesting to see what Salvatore Accardo makes of Walton's Violin Concerto. He is accompanied by the Philharmonia, under Bernard Haitink, who also present Elgar's Symphony No 2.

RAIN TREE
Thurs, 7.30pm, Shaw Theatre
The Redcliffe Percussion Ensemble plays Takemitsu's delightful *Rain Tree*, Varese's classic *Ionisation* and Standford's hermetic *Talkyoku*. Simon Conning and Nicholas Unwin join in for Bartók's Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion.

HONEGGER
Fri, 7.30pm, Usher Hall, Edinburgh
Serge Baudo takes the Scottish National Orchestra through Honegger's darkly expressive and rarely heard Symphony No 2. Pascal Rogé solos in Saint-Saëns's Piano Concerto No 2.

BALLET MECANIQUE
Fri, 7.30pm, St John's
Music Projects/London perform Antheil's once-notorious *Ballet Mécanique* – not in the original version for 16 player-pianos but in the composer's reduction for a quartet of pianos (with live pianists) and percussion. The world premiere is also given of Gavin Bryers's *Effarene*.

GALLIMAUFRY
Fri, 7.30pm, Shaw Theatre
Woolfenden's *Gallimaufry* is undertaken by the ILEA North Camden Schools Orchestra, along with Panufnik's Nocturne and Warlock's Serenade. The centrepiece is Rawsthorne's fine Piano Concerto No 1, in which Malcolm Binns solos.

COVENT GARDEN
While the Royal Opera's new production of Bellini's *Capuleti ed i Montecchi* waits in the wings, their revival of *Peter Grimes* is again in splendid isolation this week (tonight and Tues). Bernard Haitink vigorously steers a vintage cast led by Jon Vickers and Heather Harper. This time round, Alfreda Hodgson takes on the role of Mrs Sedley. (240 1066)

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Three good-looking productions are on offer this week, centring around the return of Britten's coronation opera, *Gloriana* (Wed and Mar 24). Sarah Walker takes on the central, queenly role, with Anthony Rolfe Johnson as Essex, and Mark Elder conducting a strong supporting cast. The meticulously revived *Patience* has one more chance to delight Gilbert and Sullivan fanciers on Fri, while the curtain also comes down on *The Barber of Seville* on Thurs. (836 3161)

Opera

CAMDEN FESTIVAL
On Wed, Fri and Mar 24 the London Music Theatre Group presents a festival rarity, Vivaldi's *Juditha Triumphans*. Is it a "sacred and military oratorio", or a "melodramma sacra"? Find out at one of these performances, on original instruments, at the Bloomsbury Theatre, Gordon Street, London WC1. (388 7727/388 1394)

OPERA NORTH
Each of their current productions is on offer at the Grand, Leeds, this week. The revived *Tosca*, now sung in Italian for the first time here, is tonight and Thurs, *The Bartered Bride* Mon and Wed, and the new production of Gluck's *Orpheus and Eurydice*, with Felicity Palmer and Patricia Rozario, receives one last Leeds performance on Fri. (0532 439999)

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA
WNO bring their restlessly energetic *Merry Widow* to the Apollo Theatre, Oxford, on Tues and Thurs. Best bet of the week, though, is *Jenufa*, from the Pountney/Armstrong Janáček cycle on Wed. *The Magic Flute* plays on Fri and *The Valkyrie* on Mar 24. (0865 244544)

OPERA 80
Opera-hungry dwellers in the North-west should catch the company's new 1928-style *Traviata* this week: no mere gimmickry here, but a shrewd and musical account of the work that Verdi himself wanted updated. Bridgnorth Leisure Centre (07462 61541/2) Mon and Tues, and Grand Theatre, Blackpool (0253 28372) on Thurs, Fri and Mar 24.

Films: David Robinson and Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Rock & Jazz: Richard Williams

Entertainments

What's new on the GLC South Bank?

GLC South Bank Concert Halls, Belvedere Road, London SE1 8XX. Tickets: 01-928 3191. Information: 01-928 3002.
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BBC RADIO 2 GALA CONCERT

Tonight at 7.30 pm
Ralph McTell, Patti Boulaye and Gerard Kenny with the BBC Radio Orchestra and BBC Big Band feature in a concert of popular music from the Orchestral and Big Band World of Radio 2.
Introduced by David Hamilton.
£2.20 £3.30 £4.40 £5.50 £6.50 £7.50

FAMILY FAVOURITES

WITH THE ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Monday 19 March at 7.30 pm
A popular concert for all the family with Julian Lloyd Webber (cello), David Arnold (cond), Paul Hart (keyboards). The programme includes: Manilow Magic, Beatles Medley, pieces from Julian Lloyd Webber's new album 'Cello Man'; William Tell Overture; etc.
All seats £3.50.
Family groups of 4 people or more, tickets only £2.50 each!

MARIE-CLAIRE ALAIN ORGAN RECITAL

Wednesday 21 March at 5.45 pm
A recital of works by Bach, Franck and Alain.
All seats £1.50 unreserved.

Saturday 17 March 7.30 pm	BBC RADIO 2 GALA CONCERT BBC Radio Orchestra featuring the BBC Big Band Barry Forgie (cond) John Gregory (cond) and star guests Ralph McTell Patti Boulaye Gerard Kenny. David Hamilton introduces a concert of popular music. £2.20, £3.30, £4.40, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50 — BBC/GLC
Sunday 18 March 3.15 pm	TCHAIKOVSKY CONCERT New Symphony Orchestra Central Band of the Royal Air Force Kenneth Alwyn (cond) Richard Markham (pno) Waltz from The Sleeping Beauty, Suite from Swan Lake, Piano Concerto No.1; Suite from The Nutcracker, Overture, 1812 (with cannon & mortar effects). £2.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50 (only) — Victor Hochhauser
Sunday 18 March 7.30 pm	PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA Philharmonia Chorus Bernard Haitink (cond) Helen Donath (sop) Alfreda Hodgson (alto) Robert Tear (ten) John Shirley-Quirk (bass) Beethoven Missa Solemnis. There will be no interval during this performance. £5, £6, £7 (only) — Philharmonia Ltd
Monday 19 March 7.30 pm	FAMILY FAVOURITES with The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra David Arnold (cond) Julian Lloyd Webber (cello) Paul Hart (keyboards) A Popular Concert for All The Family John Wellington presents a prog that inc: Manilow Magic, Beatles Medley, Theme from E.T., William Tell Ov, etc. ALL SEATS £3.50, family groups of 4 or more £2.50 — RPO/GLC
Tuesday 20 March 7.30 pm	LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA [illegible] — LPO Ltd
Wednesday 21 March 5.45 pm	SOUTH BANK ORGAN MUSIC Marie-Claire Alain (organ) [illegible] — GLC
Wednesday 21 March 6.30 pm	RFH Waterloo Room ELGAR AND WALTON [illegible] — Friends of the Philharmonia
Wednesday 21 March 7.30 pm	PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA [illegible] — Philharmonia Ltd
Thursday 22 March 7.30 pm	CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA [illegible] — CBSO
Friday 23 March 1.15 pm	MUSIC OF EIGHT DECADES [illegible] — BBC/London Orchestral Concert Board
Friday 23 March 7.30 pm	MUSIC OF EIGHT DECADES [illegible] — BBC/LOCB
Saturday 24 March 7.30 pm	VIENNESE EVENING [illegible] — Raymond Gubbay Ltd
Sunday 25 March 3.15 pm	PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA [illegible] — Philharmonia Ltd
Sunday 25 March 7.30 pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA [illegible] — RPO Ltd
Monday 26 March 7.30 pm	[illegible] YOUTH MAKES MUSIC [illegible] — The Schools Music Association
Tuesday 27 March 7.30 pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA [illegible] — In aid of British ORT
Wednesday 28 March 5.45 pm	SOUTH BANK ORGAN MUSIC [illegible] — Greater London Council
Wednesday 28 March 7.30 pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA [illegible] Rossini Ov, The Barber of Seville, Tchaikovsky Piano Conc No.1, Schubert Mass in A flat. £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50 (only) — RPO Ltd
Thursday 29 March 6.00 pm	RFH Waterloo Room: DR ROBERT SIMPSON will give a talk to introduce his 5th Symphony, to be performed later the same evening. After his talk, Dr Simpson will hold informal discussion with the audience. £1.00 — The Robert Simpson Society
Thursday 29 March 7.30 pm	THE GREAT BRITISH MUSIC FESTIVAL 1925-1975 Philharmonia Orchestra Andrew Davis (conductor) John Ogdon (piano) Delius A Song of Summer, Rawsthorne Piano Concerto No.2, Simpson Symphony No.5. (Final concert in this series: 1 April). £2.40, £4.20, £6.60 — Philharmonia Ltd
Friday 30 March 8.00 pm	In the presence of H.R.H. Princess Alexandra RAF ANNIVERSARY CONCERT Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Louis Fremaux (cond) Philip Fowke (pno) Central Band of The Royal Air Force Wing CMDR. E. Banks (cond) Prog inc: Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No.2, Ravel Bolero, items for Band. £3.50, £4, £6.50, £8.50 (only) — The Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund

THE MUSIC BOX

Saturday 17 March: Martin Weightman Quintet
Featuring post-60s repertoire – exploring tonal improvisations.
Sunday 18 March: Wheatley-Hall Trio
Original music based on jazz and other influences.
Friday 23 March:
Monk's Music (1917-1982) presented by the Howard Riley Trio
An evening of compositions by the late Thelonius Monk.

EXHIBITIONS

Kafka – Prague (Until 27 March)
Fonics (Until 15 April)
Alberto Castro Lenero (20-27 March)

Queen Elizabeth Hall

GANDHI (PG)

22 March at 6.30 pm.
Richard Attenborough's Academy Award winning film starring Ben Kingsley as The Mahatma, Candice Bergen, Edward Fox, John Gielgud, Trevor Howard, John Mills, Martin Sheen, with music by Ravi Shankar.
All seats £2.50.

Saturday 17 March 7.45 pm	ISLINGTON CHORAL SOCIETY Vyners School Choir The Regent Sinfonia Percussion Ensemble Peter J. Williams (cond) J. Adams C. Robson M. Holland S. Lole A. Harvey Tenth Anniversary Concert Michael Hurd Music's Praise; Gustav Merkel Organ Sonata in D; Orff Carmina Burana. £1.50, £3, £4.50 — ICS
Sunday 18 March 3.00 pm	STEPHEN BISHOP-KOVACEVICH (piano) Berg Sonata, Op.1, Beethoven Sonata in C, Op.53 (Waldstein), Brahms Intermezzi, Op.117, Brahms Fantasien, Op.116; £1.50, £2.50, £3, £3.50, £4 — Harrison/Parrott Ltd
Sunday 18 March 7.15 pm	GOLDBERG ENSEMBLE Malcolm Layfield (director) Handel Concerto Grosso in B flat, Op.6/5; Rossini String Sonata No.1 in G; Mozart Adagio & Fugue in C minor, K.546; Shostakovich Two pieces for string octet, Op.11; Tchaikovsky Serenade for strings. £1.50, £2.50, £3, £4, £5 — Cameron Productions Ltd
Monday 19 March 7.45 pm	THE 1984 U.K. JAZZ FESTIVAL All Star British Bands & Artists. £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50 — Zodiac Records Ltd
Tuesday 20 March 7.45 pm	THE FIRES OF LONDON Günther Bauer-Schenk (cond) M. Thomas D. Stephenson B. Rayner Cook A. Dickie M. Wraith S. McBurney T. Yang Maxwell Davies Anakhrosi; Anthony Payne A Day in the Life of a Mayfly; Ross Edwards Laikan; Maxwell Davies The No.11 Bus (staged) (1st pf). £1.20, £3.70, £4.50 (only) — Fires of London
Wednesday 21 March 7.45 pm	LONDON MOZART PLAYERS Tamas Vasary (conductor/piano) Rossini Overture, The Silken Ladder; Beethoven Piano Concerto No.1; Britten Simple Symphony; Schubert Symphony No.2. £3, £5, £6, £7 (only) — Haydn-Mozart Society
Thursday 22 March 6.30 pm	GANDHI (PG) 188 mins Richard Attenborough's Academy Award winning film starring Ben Kingsley as The Mahatma, Candice Bergen, Edward Fox, John Gielgud, Trevor Howard, John Mills, Martin Sheen, with music by Ravi Shankar. ALL SEATS £2.50 — Distributed by Columbia-EMI Warner Ltd
Friday 23 March 7.45 pm	LONDON BACH ORCHESTRA Nona Liddell (dir/vln) Michael Laird (tpt) Crispian Steele-Perkins (tpt) James Kessel (timpani) Handel Concerto Grosso, Op.6/7; Vivaldi Conc in C for 2 tpts; Mozart Serenade, K.239 (Serenata Notturna); Bach Vln Conc, BWV.1042; Hertel Conc in C for 8 timpani. £2.50, £3.50, £4, £5, £6 — LBO Ltd

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Saturday 24 March 7.45 pm	LONDON ORPHEUS CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA James Gaddarn (conductor) Ilse Wolf (sop) Sybil Michelow (cont) Wynford Evans (tenor) Jonathan Roberts (bass) Leslie Pearson (harpsichord) John Birch (organ) Bach Mass in B minor. £3, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50 — London Orpheus Choir
Sunday 25 March 3.00 pm	ELISABETH LEONSKAJA (piano) Schubert Sonata in G, D894; Liszt Vallée d'Obermann; Liszt Richard Wagner Venezia; Liszt Les jeux d'eaux à la villa d'Este; Liszt Après une lecture du Dante, fantasia quasi sonata. £1.50, £2.50, £3, £3.50, £4 — Ingpen & Williams Ltd
Sunday 25 March 7.15 pm	LONDON JEWISH MALE CHOIR Eli Abt (tenor) The Leeds Jewish Youth Choir, Zimriyah Choral Society. A programme of secular music, liturgical music and folk songs. SOLD OUT — London Jewish Male Choir
Monday 26 March 7.45 pm	BARCLAYS BANK MUSICAL SOCIETY CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA Michael Teyshenne (cond) Ruth Fielding (sop) John Menger (ten) David Devan (bar) Elgar Overture, Cockaigne; Finzi For St. Cecilia; Handel Organ Concerto, Op.4 No.6; Vaughan Williams A Sea Symphony. £2.00, £2.50 — Barclays Bank Musical Society
Tuesday 27 March 7.45 pm	INNER LONDON SCHOOLS' MUSIC ASSOCIATION CONCERT A musical evening with London School Children. £1.50, £2.50, £3, £3.50 (only) — Inner London Schools' Music Association
Wednesday 28 March 7.45 pm	ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA Philip Ledger (cond/hpschd) Jose-Luis Garcia (violin) Bach Brandenburg Concerto No.6, Mozart Eine kleine Nachtmusik, Vivaldi The Four Seasons. SOLD OUT — E.C.O. & Music Society
Thursday 29 March 7.45 pm	BROMPTON CHORAL SOCIETY London Bach Orchestra Donald Cashmore (cond) Elizabeth Ritchie (sop) Marilyn de Blieck (contralto) Adrian Thompson (tenor) Ian Caddy (baritone) Rossini Stabat Mater; Mozart Requiem. £2.75, £3.50, £4.25, £4.75, £5.50 — Brompton Choral Society
Friday 30 March 7.45 pm	ROSTAL AND SCHAEFER (two pianos) Prog inc: Warsaw Concerto; Chariots of Fire; Swan Lake Suite; Themes from Jesus Christ Superstar, Evita, Cats; Beatles Medley; Selection from West Side Story; original music for 2 pnos, pno duet & solo pno by Liszt, Grieg, Brahms, Debussy. £3, £4, £5, £6, £7 — In aid of the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children

Purcell Room

Saturday 17 March 7.30 pm	KING'S COLLEGE SCHOOL CHOIR Michael Jenkins (cond) N. Podwarski-Sillito T. Higham A. Dorrington J. Holman Monteverdi O beatae Viae; Vivaldi Conc in A min for bassoon & strings; Purcell My heart is inditing; Schubert The Lord is my Shepherd; Der Hirt auf dem Felsen; Bach Jesu, meine Freude. (SOLD OUT) — John Higham International Artists
Sunday 18 March 2.45 pm	FLUTES, REEDS AND WHISTLES Michael and Doreen Muskett present a programme for children and parents which traces the history and development of woodwind instruments through the ages and in different countries. £2.00, £2.50 (only) — Early Music Duo
Sunday 18 March 7.00 pm	MARK LATIMER (pno) MADELEINE MITCHELL (violin) KLAUS ZOLL (pno accompaniment) Bach Concerto in the Italian Style, BWV.971; Ravel Gaspard de la nuit; Beethoven Violin Sonata in D, Op.12 No.1; Debussy Violin Sonata in G min; Chopin Douze Etudes, Op.25; Franck Violin Sonata in A. £1, £1.50, £2 — Worshipful Company of Musicians
Monday 19 March 7.30 pm	JORG BLANK (violin) PETER PETTINGER (piano) Corelli La Folia; Bach Ciaccona for unaccompanied violin; Mozart Violin Sonata in G, K.301; Bloch Nigun (Baal Shem Suite); Ysaÿe Sonata in E for unaccompanied violin, Op.27 No.6; Wieniawski Polonaise, Op.4 No.1. £2.50, £3.50 (only) — John Higham International Artists
Tuesday 20 March 6.00 pm	PLG BRITISH STRING QUARTET SERIES Medici String Quartet Alan Bush Dialectic, Alun Hoddinott Quartet No.2 (first performance), Edward Cowie Quartet No.4 (first performance). £2.00 (Other date: 27 March) — Park Lane Group
Tuesday 20 March 7.30 pm	SAMUEL DILWORTH-LESLIE (piano) Third of Four French Recitals Guest artist Phyllis Lehrer Prog inc: Dolly Suite for pno duet, Op.56; 8 short pieces, Op.84; 4th impromptu Op.91; 2nd Valse Caprice, Op.38, Nocturnes, Barcarolles. £1.50, £2.50, £3.50 — Helen Jennings Concert Agency
Wednesday 21 March 7.30 pm	GEOFFREY POGSON (tenor) HELEN ROBERTSON-BARKER (piano) [illegible]
Thursday 22 March 7.30 pm	ROBERT COLLEY (piano) [illegible] £1.50, £2.25, £3.00 — Helen Jennings Concert Agency
Friday 23 March 7.30 pm	ROSE ANDRESIER (guitar) Michael Berkeley Lament; Kenneth Platts Sonata; Nigel Osborne After Night; Nicholas Barton The End of Summer (1st pf); Frank Stiles Sonata; Britten Nocturnal; Antonio Tauriello Four soliloquies. £1.50, £2.00, £2.50 — Daniels Concert Management
Saturday 24 March 10.30 am	WRITERS' DAY Organised by The English Centre of International P.E.N. Further details and tickets available from International P.E.N., 7 Dilke Street, London SW3 4JE.

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Stephen Bishop-Kovacevich

Berg * Beethoven (Waldstein) * Brahms (Op.117 — Op.116)
For details please see South Bank panel

HAYDN-MOZART SOCIETY — WEDNESDAY NEXT 21 MARCH at 7.45 pm

LONDON MOZART PLAYERS
TAMAS VASARY

LMP

conductor/piano
Overture, The Silken Ladder .... ROSSINI
Piano Concerto No.1 in C .... BEETHOVEN
Simple Symphony .... BRITTEN
Symphony No.2 in B flat .... SCHUBERT
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TUESDAY 3 APRIL at 7.45 pm

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OMRI HADARI conductor
MICHAEL PONTI piano
Holst "St. Paul's Suite" for Strings
Haydn Piano concerto in D major
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Tonight 17 March 7.30 pm	VERMEER QUARTET Beethoven Programme. String Quartet No.12 in E flat Op.127; String Quartet in A Op.18 No.5; String Quartet No.11 in F minor Op.95. £4.50, £3.50, £2.50, £2 — Wigmore Master Concerts
Tomorrow 18 March 3 pm Part 1, 7.30 pm Part 2	THE SONGMAKERS' ALMANAC [illegible]
Monday 19 March 7.30 pm	DENNIS KARMAZYN cello MEG BACHMANN YAS piano [illegible]
Tuesday 20 March 7.30 pm	Music by ASKELL MASSON [illegible]
Wednesday 21 March 7.30 pm	MADY MESPLE soprano DALTON BALDWIN piano [illegible]
Thursday 22 March 7.30 pm	EMERSON STRING QUARTET of New York [illegible]
Friday 23 March 7.30 pm	CARL DOLMETSCH recorder [illegible]
Saturday 24 March 7.30 pm	NASH ENSEMBLE THOMAS ALLEN baritone [illegible]
Sunday 25 March 3.30 pm	KODALY STRING QUARTET [illegible] — Dale Sengor
Sunday 25 March 7.30 pm	PETER SERKIN piano Beethoven Programme [illegible]
Monday 26 March 7.30 pm	KAZUHIKO SHIGENO piano [illegible]
Tuesday 27 March 7.30 pm	PHILIP PILKINGTON piano [illegible]
Wednesday 28 March 7.30 pm	MUSICA ANTIQUA OF LONDON [illegible]
Thursday 29 March 7.30 pm	MUSICA ANTIQUA OF LONDON [illegible]
Friday 30 March 7.30 pm	VICTORIA DE LOS ANGELES soprano JOSEPH VILLA piano Fortieth Anniversary Concert Songs by French & Spanish Composers. £6.50, £5.50, £4.50, £3 — Song Recital Series/Basil Douglas Ltd

WIGMORE HALL — TUESDAY NEXT 20 MARCH at 7.30 pm
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Music by Askell Masson

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For full details see Wigmore Hall panel

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The Guardian
For full details see Wigmore Hall panel



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Saturday March 17 7.45pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Bank Tchaikovsky Cycle. Yuri Simonov (cond) Mischa Maisky (cello). Tchaikovsky: Symphony No 3 'Polish', Rococo Variations, Fantasy 'Francesca da Rimini'. £8, £7, £6, £5, £3.50.
Sunday March 18 7.45pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Bank Tchaikovsky Cycle. Yuri Simonov (cond). Oscar Shumsky (violin). Tchaikovsky: Fantasy — Overture 'Romeo and Juliet', Violin Concerto; Symphony No 4. £7, £6, £5.
Monday March 19 6.30pm	SHELL/LSO STRINGS WORKSHOP. LSO Principals work with young players on orchestral repertoire. All seats £1.00. Sponsored by Shell.
Tuesday March 20 7.45pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Bank Tchaikovsky Cycle. Yuri Simonov (cond). Shura Cherkassky (piano). Tchaikovsky: Overture 'The Voyevoda', Piano Concerto No 2, Symphony No 5. £7, £6, £5, £2.50.
Wednesday March 21 1.00pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Bank Tchaikovsky Cycle. Yuri Simonov (cond). Tchaikovsky: Symphony No 6 'Pathetique'. All seats £2.50.
Wednesday March 21 7.45pm	ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA. Paul Tortelier 70th Birthday Concert. Paul Tortelier (cond) Yan Pascal Tortelier (cond), Maud Tortelier (cello), Maria de la Pau (piano), Pomme Tortelier (soprano). Handel: Sonata for two cellos and orchestra, Op 2 No 8 in G minor. Tortelier: Variations on 'May Music Save Peace', Danse sur la mode Greco-Chinois. Tchaikovsky: Rococo Variations, Op 33. Haydn: Trio No 1. Saint-Saens: Wedding Cake. Paganini: Variations for Two Cellos and Strings. £8, £7, £6, £5, £3.50.
Thursday March 22 7.45pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Bank Tchaikovsky Cycle. Yuri Simonov (cond). Tchaikovsky: Suite 'Nutcracker', Suite No 4 'Mozartiana', Symphony No 6 'Pathetique'. £8, £7, £6, £5, £3.50.
Friday March 23 1.00pm	Masterclass YURI SIMONOV AND NEXUS OPERA. Songs and arias from the popular Russian repertoire. All seats £2.50
Friday March 23 7.45pm	ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA. Yan Pascal Tortelier (cond). Paul Tortelier (cello). Rossini: Overture 'The Italian Girl in Algiers'. Schumann: Cello Concerto. Ravel: Le Tombeau de Couperin. Brahms: Two Intermezzi. Brahms: Three Hungarian Dances, Nos 5, 6 & 7. £8, £7, £6, £5, £3.50, £2.50.
Saturday March 24 7.45pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Bank Tchaikovsky Cycle. Yuri Simonov (cond). Tchaikovsky: Polonaise from 'Eugene Onegin', Serenade for Strings, Manfred Symphony. £8, £7, £6, £5, £2.50
Sun/Mon March 25/26 7.45pm	CHARLES AZNAVOUR IN CONCERT. £15, £13, £11, £7
Mon Mar 26 to Fri Mar 30	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Lunchtime Concerts. Prog incl. Mussorgsky's Night on the Bare Mountain, Copeland's Appalachian Spring, Britten's Dawn and Storm (Peter Grimes), Percy Grainger's Green Bushes. Full prog. details on request. All seats £2.50.
Wednesday March 28 8.00pm	LONDON: HISTORIC CITY IN FILM. London Concert Orchestra. Harry Rabinowitz (cond). Guest narrator. Historic archive film and Victorian London, Royalty in the City, The City at War. The silent film sections accompanied by music of Elgar, Walton and Handel. £5.50, £2.50. Raymond Gubbay Ltd.
Friday March 30 8.00pm	LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Norman Del Mar (cond). Stephen Hough (piano). Mendelssohn: Overture 'The Hebrides' (Fingal's Cave). Schubert: Symphony No 8 'Unfinished'. Beethoven: Piano Concerto No 5 'Emperor'. Mozart: Symphony No 40. £7.50, £6.50, £5.50, £4.50. Raymond Gubbay Ltd.
Saturday March 31 7.45pm	OSCAR PETERSON IN CONCERT. £15

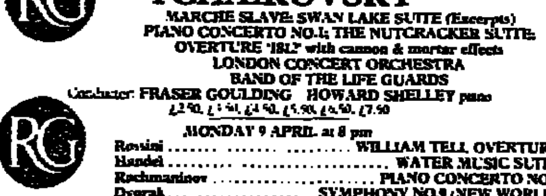
RAYMOND GUBBAY presents
at the BARBICAN
WEDNESDAY 28 MARCH at 8 pm

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Entirely new edition with much material not shown in previous performances.
Fantastic glimpse of the City of London over the past century.
Historic archive film inc. Victorian London, The London Docks, Transport in the City, Royalty in the City, The City in War.
Silent film sections will be accompanied by
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
Conductor: HARRY RABINOWITZ
with music by Elgar, Walton, Handel, etc
£2.50, £5.50

FRIDAY 30 MARCH at 8 pm
Mendelssohn .... OV. 'THE HEBRIDES' (FINGAL'S CAVE)
Schubert .... SYMPHONY NO.8 (UNFINISHED)
Beethoven .... PIANO CONCERTO NO.5 (EMPEROR)
Mozart .... SYMPHONY NO.40
LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Conductor: NORMAN DEL MAR
STEPHEN HOUGH piano
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50

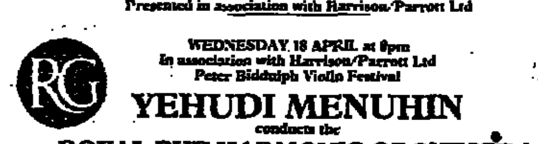
SUNDAY 1 APRIL at 7.30 pm
Bach .... BRANDENBURG CONCERTO NO.3
Haydn .... CELLO CONCERTO in C
Vivaldi .... THE FOUR SEASONS
ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
JOSE-LUIS GARCIA violin director
JULIAN LLOYD-WEBBER cello ANTHONY HALSTEAD harpsichord
£2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50



SATURDAY 7 APRIL at 8 pm

TCHAIKOVSKY

MARCHE SLAVE: SWAN LAKE SUITE (Excerpts)
PIANO CONCERTO NO.1; THE NUTCRACKER SUITE;
OVERTURE '1812' with cannon & mortar effects
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
BAND OF THE LIFE GUARDS
Conductor: FRASER GOULDING HOWARD SHELLEY piano
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MONDAY 9 APRIL at 8 pm
Rossini .... WILLIAM TELL OVERTURE
Handel .... WATER MUSIC SUITE
Rachmaninov .... PIANO CONCERTO NO.2
Dvorak .... SYMPHONY NO.9 (NEW WORLD)
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Conductor: MOSHE ATZMON
CRISTINA ORTIZ piano
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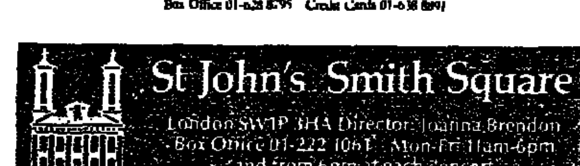
WEDNESDAY 18 APRIL at 8pm
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Peter Biddulph Violin Festival

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Delius .... WALK TO THE PARADISE GARDEN
Tchaikovsky .... VIOLIN CONCERTO
Brahms .... SYMPHONY No.1
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THURSDAY 19 APRIL at 8 pm
Berlioz .... LE CORSAIR OV.
Sibelius .... FINLANDIA
Tchaikovsky .... PIANO CONCERTO NO.1
Mussorgsky/Ravel .... PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Conductor: RICHARD HARVEY
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St John's Smith Square

London SW1P 3HA Director: Joanna Brendon
Box Office 01-222 1061 Mon-Fri 11am-6pm and from 6pm at each concert

Tonight 17 Mch 7.30 pm	ST. ALBANS CHAMBER CHOIR cond. Richard Stangroom. LONDON BAROQUE dir. Charles Medlam. Monteverdi: Beatus Vir. Byrd: Mass for 5 voices. Bach: Singet dem Herrn. Howells: Requiem. Prog. also incl. works by Corelli, Gibbons, Lawes & Tomkins. £4, £3, £2 — St. Albans Chamber Choir
Tomorrow 18 Mch 7 pm	LONDON COLLEGE OF MUSIC ORCHESTRA. Peter Turton cond John McCabe piano. Kabalevsky: Overture Colas Breugnon. Tippett: Fantasia on a theme of Handel, for piano and orchestra. Brahms: Symphony No 4 in E minor. Free admission — London College of Music
Monday 19 Mch 7.30 pm	THE PARLEY OF INSTRUMENTS. Roy Goodman & Peter Holman directors. Crispian Steele-Perkins, Stephen Keavy natural trumpets. "The Fam'd Italian Masters". Theatre music by Purcell; trumpet sonatas by Corelli, Vivaldi, Manfredini & Anon. £4, £3, £2 — The Parley of Instruments
Tuesday 20 Mch 8 pm	DAVID WILSON-JOHNSON baritone. DAVID OWEN NORRIS Broadwood piano. SCHUBERT: WINTERREISE sung in the order of the poet, Wilhelm Müller, accompanied on an 1824 Broadwood, as on the new Hyperion recording by these artists. £7.50, £5, £2.50 — The Friends of St. John's/Hyperion Records
Friday 23 Mch 7.30 pm	THE NEW MACNAGHTEN CONCERTS. Transatlantic Connections Final Concert. Richard Bernas director. Music Projects/London. George Antheil: Ballet Mecanique (1923) for 4 pianos & percussion. Gavin Bryars: Ensatene, for 4 pianos, voices & percussion (1st perf). Pre-concert talk at 6.30 pm. £3.90 (£2 concessions)
Monday 26 Mch 7.30 pm	ENGLISH BAROQUE SOLOISTS. John Eliot Gardiner cond. Malcolm Bilson fortepiano. Mozart: Symphony No.29 in A; Piano Concerto in B flat K.450; Piano Concerto in B flat K.456. Sponsored by Standard Chartered Bank PLC. £6, £4, £2 — Monteverdi Choir and Orchestra Ltd

MOZART

Fortepiano concertos at St. John's Smith Square, London SW1
Malcolm Bilson, fortepiano
John Eliot Gardiner, conductor
English Baroque Soloists
26 March, 7.30pm — Mozart: Symphony No.29 in A, fortepiano concerto No.15 in B flat, fortepiano concerto No.18 in B flat
3 April, 7.30pm — Haydn: Symphony No.84 in E flat; Mozart: fortepiano concerto No.13 in C, fortepiano concerto No.19 in F
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Richard O'Sullivan Tim Brooke-Taylor
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"IT'S A TRIUMPH"
RUN FOR YOUR WIFE!
Written & Directed by Ray Cooney
"OUTRAGEOUSLY FUNNY" Daily Telegraph

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"A team of actors born to play farce." THE GUARDIAN
Directed by Ray Cooney
"A glorious evening." THE TIMES
Philip King's Famous Farce
SEE HOW THEY RUN

HANDEL'S BROCKES PASSION. Thurs. 6 April 6.30pm at St Anne & St Agnes, Gresham St., EC2 (tube St Paul's) St Leonard Ensemble, directed by Peter Lea-Cox. Soloists: Tracy Chadwell, soprano; Timothy Wilson, countertenor; Philip Salmon, Antony Rich, tenors; Mark Wildman, Lynton Black, basses. Sponsored by National Westminster Bank. Tickets £2 at door or by post from St Anne's Music Society, 27 Prentis Rd, London SW16. Phone 01-769 2677.

SHAW THEATRE 01-388 7727, 387 6293 cc) International Music & Dance. Tonight 7.30 GREEK – Marisa Koch & Yiannis Glezos. Mon 19 March 7.30 ISRAEL – Oranim Dance Troupe, Zemel Choir. Tue 20 March 7.30 HUNGARY – Robert Mandel & East European Folk Group. Wed 21 March 7.30 CARIBBEAN – Clint Eastwood & General Saint, Abacush. Sat 24 March 7.30 INDIA – Birju Maharaj's Kathak Dance Company. Mon 26 March 7.30 BOLIVIA – Los Awatinas. Tue 27 & Wed 28 March 7.30 JAVA – Sasono Mulyo Dance Company. Camden Festival 1984.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Ton't Wed 7.30 GLORIANA. Thur 7.30 THE BARBER OF SEVILLE. Fri 7.30 PATIENCE. Some seats avail at doors each day.

LOGAN HALL, 20 Bedford Way, WC1 01-388 7727. Tonight 7.30 ADRIANA LECOUVREUR Cilea. Concert performance. Tue 27 March 7.30 LADY MACBETH OF MTSENSK Shostakovich Concert performance. Camden Festival 1984.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, COVENT GARDEN 240 1066 1911 10am-8pm (Mon-Sat). Access Visa. 'S' 65 amphi seats avail for all perfs (Mon-Sat) from 10am on the day
THE ROYAL OPERA
Ton't, Tues at 7.30pm. Peter Grimes
THE ROYAL BALLET
Wed, Fri at 7.30pm. Afternoon of a Faun/Different Drummer (New MacMillan Ballet)/Song of the Earth. Thur at 7.30pm. Romeo and Juliet.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE EC1. 01-278 8916 (5 lines). CC 24 Hr Recorded Info 01-278 5450. Grp Sales 01-930 6123. The Wells' Stage-coach: Before & after-show Bus Service – Phone B.O. for details
BALLET RAMBERT
Until 31 March. Ton't 7.30pm Entre Dos Aguas/Capriol Suite/Five Brahms Waltzes in the manner of Isadora Duncan/Concertino. Mon to Wed at 7.30pm Entre Dos Aguas/Intimate pages/Murderer Hope of Women (unsuitable for children).

THEATRES

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NICKY HENSON
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SUFFICIENT CARBOHYDRATE
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THE COUNTRY GIRL
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ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
BARBICAN THEATRE, today 2.00 & 7.30, CYRANO DE BERGERAC by Edmond Rostand (sold out – runs 3¾hrs) Day seats £4 from 10am. RSC/ROYAL INSURANCE ARM-CHAIR PROMS 19-24 March Best Seats £3 on day of perf from 8.30am for final perfs of MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, THE TEMPEST, CYRANO DE BERGERAC (except mat 22 & eve 24 March)
THE PIT today 2.00 & 7.30 TARTUFFE by Moliere (sold out, runs 2¼hrs).

BLOOMSBURY Gordon St, WC1 S CC 387 9629. Last perf Ton't 8pm. CHRISTOPHER BIGGINS in METHUSALEM by Ivan Goll. Brit Prem of this major example of German expressionist theatre

BUSH THEATRE 743 3388 TOPOKANA MARTYRS' DAY by Jonathan Falla. Ton't, Tomor, 8pm Mon 7pm. No perf Tues.

CHURCHILL Bromley (15mins Victoria) Tel. 460 6677 TERRY SCOTT in SCHOOL FOR WIVES Mon-Fri 7.45 Sat 8.0 Mats Thurs 29 2.30 Today & Sat 31st 4.30

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RICHARD O'SULLIVAN TIM BROOKE-TAYLOR
BERNARD BRESSLAW in
RUN FOR YOUR WIFE
Written & directed by RAY COONEY
Now in its second side-splitting year
"OUTRAGEOUSLY FUNNY" Daily Telegraph

DONMAR WAREHOUSE Earlham St, Covent Garden 01-379 6565. Eves 8.30, Mats Wed 2.30, Sat 6.00. THE JEW OF MALTA by Christopher Marlowe. Tkts from £3.90. LATE & LIVE Wed-Sat 11pm-1am £2. Live Music, Dancing, Food, Drink, Singers and comedians.

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DUKE OF YORKS 01-836 5122 cc 836 9837 Group Sales 930 6123. Previewing from Tuesday April 3. Opens Friday April 6th at 8.0pm Evgs Only Mon-Sat 8.0pm
GLENDA JACKSON
BRIAN COX, EDWARD PETHERBRIDGE, JAMES HAZELDINE & JOHN PHILLIPS
in
STRANGE INTERLUDE
by Eugene O'Neill
Directed by Keith Hack

مكبرا من الأصل

Entertainments

continued on page 33

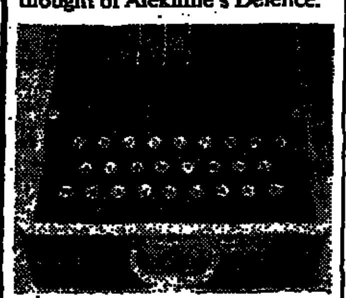
Chess

Analysis, the key to the codes

Edgar Allan Poe, who compared chess unfavourably with draughts as an intellectual pursuit in "The Murders in the Rue Morgue", betrayed his weakness as a chess-player when he classed the game as a matter of calculation rather than analysis.

Little wonder that he lost to the Automaton when it was on tour in America, for it is precisely in the matter of analysis that men differ from monkeys; or, to bring matters right up to date, unlike chess-playing machines, we can practice original analysis.

In this respect the chess mind is much the same as that employed in code-breaking; powers of analysis are essential in both, and I can well remember that of the dozen of us who were engaged in breaking German naval codes during the war no fewer than four were noted chess-players. In those days, if you wanted to work at GCHQ, nobody wanted to know if you belonged to a union, but Waldo McGuire, should he chance to read these lines, will remember that at his interview he was asked what he thought of Alekhine's Defence.



The enemy: Enigma, the war-time German coding machine

When war broke out the British team was playing in a chess olympiad at Buenos Aires. Three out of the five in the team got to GCHQ, and I remember how on one occasion, when we were discussing the relative merits of German and British code-breaking, someone pointed out with great glee that owing to the Atlantic blockade the German team would be unable to return to Europe.

How many draughts-players there were at Bletchley Park I never inquired; but I should not like to be regarded as contemptuous of that subtle game. After all, both games have in common that pleasing paradox known in chess as zugzwang (compulsion to move), the difference being that in chess it is a rare occurrence through which one is forced to commit suicide, whereas in draughts it is a way of life.

Hence perhaps the greater glamour attached to the theme in chess. I better remember and relish getting an opponent in zugzwang than winning the British championship.

For a wonderful example of zugzwang I turn to that baroque genius Aron Nimzowitsch, who won a remarkable game with it against the Berlin grandmaster Fritz Sämisch at Copenhagen in 1923.

White F. Sämisch. Black A. Nimzowitsch. Q.P.Q. Indian Defence

1 P-Q4 N-KB3 2 P-QB4 P-K3
3 N-KB3 P-QN3 4 P-KN3 B-N2
5 B-N2 B-K2 6 N-B3 0-0
7 0-0 P-Q4

This, and his following move, stems from Nimzowitsch, and its point is that it presents a solid front against White's fianchettoed Bishop.

8 N-K5 P-B3 9 PxP

A simplification that merely assists Black; better is 9 P-N3 followed by B-N2 and P-B4.

9 ... BPxP 10 B-B4 P-QR3

He is building up for a firm control of the vital point on QB5.

11 R-B1 P-QN4 12 Q-N3

Preparing to play P-QR4 and so undermine Black's Q-side position. But he is not given time to do this.

12 ... N-B3 13 NxN BxN
14 P-KR3 Q-Q2 15 K-R2 N-R4

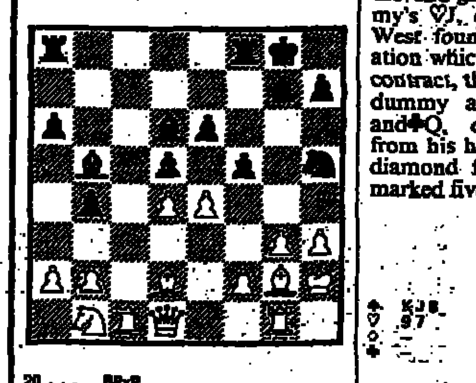
The initiation of a remarkable Kingside attack.

16 B-Q2 P-B4 17 Q-Q1 P-N5
18 N-N1 B-QN4 19 R-N1

Freeing the KP to advance without having to suffer an attack by the enemy Bishop on his Rook.

19 ... B-Q3 20 P-K4

Looks strong; but he has overlooked "the miracle of the sacrifice".



20 ... BPxP

Of this fine sacrifice Nimzowitsch says in his book *My System*, "based upon the following sober calculation: two pawns and the seventh rank and an enemy Queen's wing which cannot be disentangled – all this for only one piece".

21 QxN RxP 22 Q-N5 QR-KB1
23 K-R1 R(B1)-B4 24 Q-K3 B-Q6

Threatening to win the Queen by R-K7.

25 QR-K1 P-R3

A subtle move announcing that White is in zugzwang. Black need only move his King up and down until White exhausts his pawn moves and then has to make a losing move. Therefore White now resigns.

Harry Golombek

Family Life

Exploration round a hotbed of radicalism

Subjected as I am to a steady stream of publicity material attempting to "sell" a particular town, area, museum, historic house, entertainment or family holiday, I am used to the fact that the product sometimes falls short of the glowing description. So it came as a pleasant surprise to follow up some of the suggestions in *Discovering Clerkenwell, London's Hidden Village*, a free pamphlet produced by the Clerkenwell Heritage Centre, and find that this "little known area" (except to those who live and work in it) is in fact *extremely* "rich in history and tradition".

I began with the intention of looking at the new St John Ambulance Museum which opened on Wednesday, but having decided to make a little circumambulation beforehand, realized that I could have spent days exploring the area. For those of you not familiar with Clerkenwell, it lies in the south of the London borough of Islington. To the north is Sadler's Wells Theatre, to the south the Barbican.

Within Clerkenwell are dozens of streets, buildings and vistas worth pursuing. Among the more notable are Charterhouse, erstwhile home of the public school founded in 1350; the Gatehouse of St John, built in 1504; the surviving Norman crypt of the first Priory Church, destroyed during the Peasants' Revolt in 1381 and the Record Office and History Library of the Greater London Council, which contains literally miles of books and archives, maps, prints and photographs.

The Marx Memorial Library is on the north side of Clerkenwell Green. Built in the 1730s as a Welsh Charity school, it has subsequently been used as a draper's, a public house, a working men's club and a socialist printing press – it was the home of the Twentieth Century Press used by Lenin, who edited *Iskra* (The Spark) from a small back room, which you may visit. As a working men's club it was, in the words of the charming librarian, Andrew Davies, "a hotbed of radicalism", and it was from here that William Morris, George Bernard Shaw and Eleanor Marx set forth on Bloody Sunday in 1887, when two people died in clashes with the authorities during a socialist demonstration in Trafalgar Square.

The library contains more than 100,000 books, periodicals and journals, many of them foreign-language, relating to the labour movement and on history and economics. There are also more than 50,000 pamphlets. Serious students may study here (membership costs £6 for the first year, £5 thereafter), but the librarian and staff are happy to see you if you merely want to browse or make specific inquiries (there are special collections relating to the Spanish Civil War, the Hunger Marches, Ireland, the Peace Movement and Chartism). Memorabilia fanciers can look at a copy of Marx's passport or Engels's copy of *Das Kapital*.



Healthy tradition: Two of the exhibits at the new St John Ambulance Museum. A photograph of the East Ham Ambulance and Nursing Divisions, 1909, and a bottle of smelling salts

The Museum of the Order of St John is a few minutes' walk away up the Green and through Jerusalem Passage and St John Square. The museum staff and helpers were putting the finishing touches to the new St John Ambulance display, which traces the history of the Association, founded in 1877 to teach first aid, and the St John Ambulance Brigade, which was formed 10 years later. I know several people who owe a debt to the brigade, not least the unfortunate Welsh girl I met at the zoo trying to retrieve the top of a finger lost between door and door post in the ladies' lavatory and the little boy who had gone missing near the lion's den at the same time.

Photographs of some of the predecessors of present members who number over a quarter of a million, are here, along with a collection of early period uniforms, historical medical instruments and first-aid kits, a nineteenth-century litter, the ubiquitous triangular bandage, medals and certificates, all well captioned.

Depending on how interested you are in the exhibits, a look round the new displays would take between 10 minutes and half an hour. Children, will, I suspect, gain much more from the old historical museum, which in spite of a slightly sepulchral air as you first enter, contains some fascinating items.

It is not a large collection, but the display cases are uncluttered, well lit and well captioned. They illustrate various aspects of ecclesiastical, hospitalier and military life associated with the Order of St John. There are holy vessels, breastplates and shields belonging to medieval knights, nursing utensils such as a highly polished bleeding bowl, and a nugget of Malta earth (said to be effective against snake bites and poisons).

There are models of the great carracks owned by the crusading Knights of Malta, photographs of houses belonging to the order and a special domestic account of the Order's Commandry in Chippenham Cambridgeshire made in the year 1338.

All this might well tell a child more about certain aspects of the social history of the time than any amount of textbook description and whet an appetite for more.

Judy Froshaug

Clerkenwell Heritage Centre, 33 St John's Square, London EC1 (250 1039), is open from Apr 2 to provide information and guided tours.

The Marx Memorial Library, 37a Clerkenwell Green, London EC1 (253 1485), is open Mon and Fri 2-6pm, Tues-Thurs 2-9pm, Sat 11am-1pm (check first for Sat opening as it may occasionally be closed). Admission free.

The Museum of the Order of St John and the St John Ambulance Museum are within St John's Gate, Clerkenwell, London EC1 (253 6644) and are open Tues, Fri and Sat 10am-6pm. Admission free. Conducted tours of St John's Gate and the Grand Priory Church, Tues, Fri and Sat at 11am and 2.30pm.

Outings

SATURDAY MORNING CHILDREN'S THEATRE CLUB
Shaw Theatre, 100 Euston Road, London, NW1 (388 0031). Today, 10.30am. Free membership, weekly admission 50p
A new Saturday morning club for children opens today. The two-hour programmes will include a weekly cliffhanger serial, a newsreel with actors relating items of particular interest to children, a creepy tale, and a "celebrity spot" in which a special guest will answer questions from the audience. There will also be a weekly main feature – either a children's theatre show, speciality act, mime or music.

SCHOOLBOY SOCCER INTERNATIONAL
Wembley Stadium, Wembley, Middlesex (902 1234). Today, gates open 2pm, tickets £2-£3.50, £1 standing only
Bets have already been made by several men I know – expatriate Scots versus die-in-the-wool Sassenachs – not to mention their sons. Should be a fierce match, whichever side you are on.

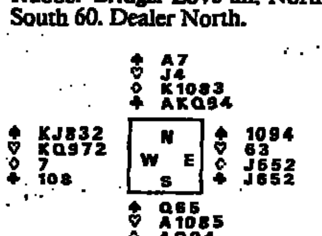
HOW WE CONQUERED THE UNIVERSE AND MADE SIMILAR MISTAKES
Mermaid Theatre, Puddle Dock, London EC4 (236 9521 ext 259). Tomorrow, 6pm. Adults £1, children 50p
Second in the spring season of Molecule Club lectures for those aged 13 or over, in which Professor Jack Meadows sets out to explore the truth – or otherwise – of scientific folklore (did the apple really fall on Newton's head, for example?) and the mistakes scientists make. In so doing he, helps to explain why "myths" and mistakes are an important part of science.

Bridge

When a sound mind goes on the blink

Blind spots defy normal bridge analysis. Perhaps a psychiatrist would be better qualified to explain these strange aberrations. A capable player makes a series of sensible deductions to produce a straightforward mechanical problem, and then unaccountably his mind goes on the blink.

Rubber Bridge. Love all. North South 60. Dealer North.

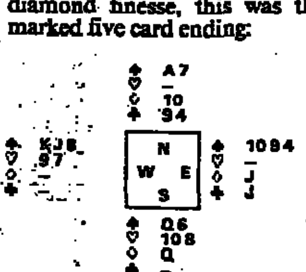


W	N	E	S
–	1♣	No	1◊
1♠	3◊	No	3♡
No	3♠	No	4◊
No	5♣	No	5◊
No	No	No	–

Opening lead ♡K

After flirting with the diamond slam, North-South stopped on the verge.

South took West's ♡K with the Ace and played the Ace and King of diamonds, revealing the 4-1 break. Setting the stage for the end-game, he played dummy's ♡J, establishing his ♡10. West found the only continuation which did not present the contract, the ♣10. South won in dummy and cashed the ♣K and ♣Q, discarding a spade from his hand. After taking the diamond finesse, this was the marked five card ending:

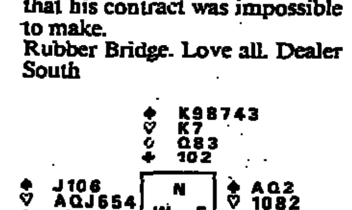


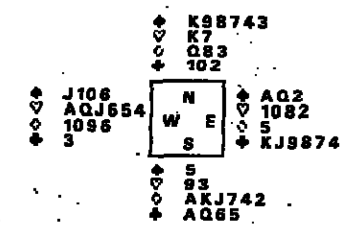
He cashed the ♡10, discarding the ♠7 from dummy. If East had ruffed, as nine times out of 10 this particular East would have done, there would have been no problem. But East discarded a spade. With a shrug of resignation, South ruffed his last heart. East overruffed and played a spade, leaving South a trick short.

Admittedly East's refusal to ruff the ♡10 was a harsh blow from an unexpected quarter. But South knew that *East's last four cards must be the two minor knaves and two spades*. A spade to the Ace, a club ruff and a spade ruff in dummy would safely provide three of the last four tricks, which is all that South required.

The declarer on the next hand was a less talented performer. That did not prevent him from dogmatically insisting that his contract was impossible to make.

Rubber Bridge. Love all. Dealer South





W	N	E	S
–	–	–	1◊
1♡	1♠	2♣	2◊
No	3◊	3♡	4◊
No	No	No	–

Opening lead ♣3

Declarer won East's ♣K with the Ace. As the bidding makes it almost certain that West has the Ace of hearts, there is no problem in making 10 tricks. Provided, of course, that one does not try to make 11, which is precisely what this declarer did.

His first disastrous move was to draw two rounds of trumps with the ◊A and ◊Q. When he then played a spade which lost to East's Ace, he covered the switch of the ♣J with the ♣Q, which West ruffed. Subsequently he could not avoid losing a club and the two major aces.

The correct technique is to confirm the assumption about the Ace of hearts. Reassured that he will lose only one heart, declarer can concentrate on the club suit. Provided that he *ducks* the ♣J he can ruff his remaining club loser in dummy and after drawing trumps cash his ♣Q with impunity.

In life it is the privilege of the rich to refuse to insure. At the bridge table, it is the folly of the heedless.

Jeremy Flint

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 294)

Prizes of the New Collins Concise English dictionary will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, March 22, 1984. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC99 9YT. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, March 24, 1984.

ACROSS
1 Hand court game (5)
4 Recommendation seller (7)
8 Below (5)
9 Inflexible (7)
10 Rolled oats biscuit (8)
11 Maori war chant (4)
13 Building labourer (5)
15 Charming scene (5)
19 Thoroughbred horse (4)
20 Newsdeliverer (8)
23 Stipulation (7)
24 Mature insect (5)
25 Small mosaic tile (7)
26 Edit critically (5)

DOWN
1 Soft and light (6)
2 Russian spirit (5)
3 Winter Olympics site (8)
4 Hypnotic state (6)
5 Petition God (4)
6 Painful labour (7)
7 Prescribed rite (6)
12 Obsession (4,4)
14 Female warriors (7)
16 Floor fabric (6)
17 Promoter's bribe (7)
18 Proverbial example (6)
21 Cutting edge (5)
22 1,760 yards (4)

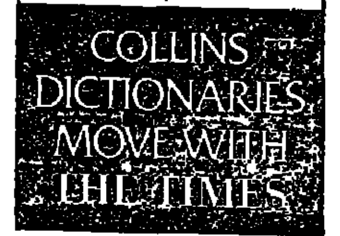
SOLUTION TO No 293
ACROSS: 1 Process 5 Lasts 8 IRA 9 Friable 10 Curve 11 Hell 12 Elastic 14 Cardiographer 16 Epithet 18 Site 21 Maize 22 Succuba 23 Net 24 Right 25 Eclipse
DOWN: 1 Puff 2 Ogive 3 Embellishment 4 Siege 5 Lackadaisical 6 Scratch 7 Seedcorn 13 Screamer 15 Railing 17 Taste 19 Thump 20 Bare
Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise

SOLUTION TO No 288 (last Saturday's prize concise)
ACROSS: 1 Get up 4 Chicken 8 Goner 9 Unguent 10 Lushness 11 Lilo 13 Scree 15 Cadge 19 Eddy 20 Mona Lisa 23 Invalid 24 On dit 25 Farrago 26 Arson
DOWN: 1 Gigolo 2 Tongs 3 Pyrenees 4 Cruise 5 Iago 6 Keeping 7 Notion 12 Casanova 14 Cadaver 16 Relief 17 Voodoo 18 Fatten 21 Indus 22 Flea

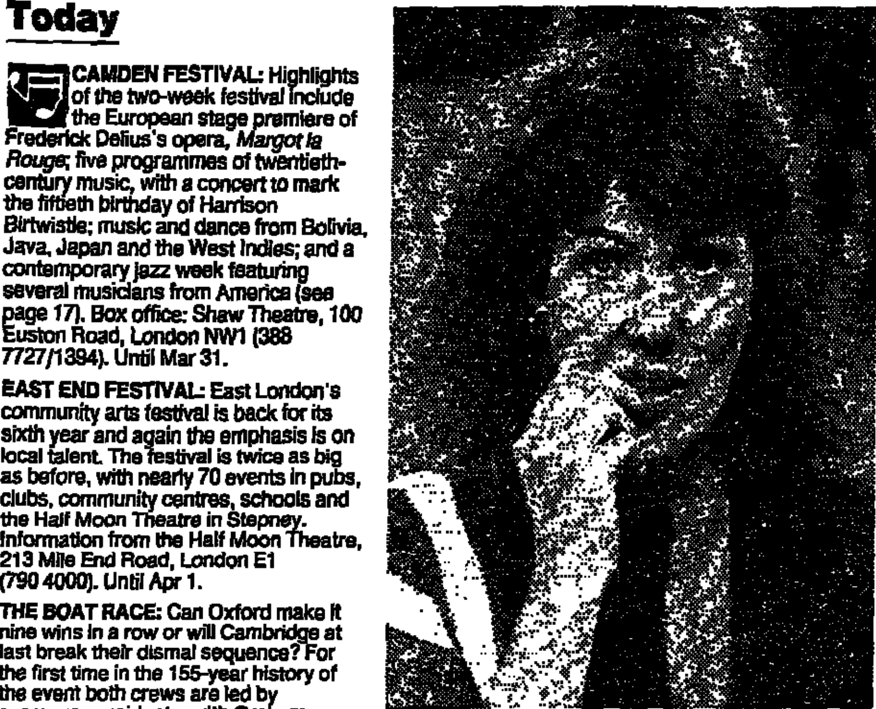
The winners of prize No 288 are: K. H. Rogers, 27 Bower Road; Bournemouth, Dorset; and B. Kilner, 28 Kingsley Drive, Harrogate, North Yorkshire.

Name..........

Address..........



THE WEEK AHEAD






Hearts in their mouths: (from left) Lynn Redgrave as Martha, the doubtful feminist (Monday); dead heat in the 1877 Boat Race (Today); Kiri Te Kanawa, celebrating in New York (Tomorrow)

Today

CAMDEN FESTIVAL: Highlights of the two-week festival include the European stage premiere of Frederick Delius's opera, *Margot la Rouge*; five programmes of twentieth-century music, with a concert to mark the fiftieth birthday of Harrison Birtwistle; music and dance from Bolivia, Java, Japan and the West Indies; and a contemporary jazz week featuring several musicians from America (see page 17). Box office: Shaw Theatre, 100 Euston Road, London NW1 (388 7727/1394). Until Mar 31.

EAST END FESTIVAL: East London's community arts festival is back for its sixth year and again the emphasis is on local talent. The festival is twice as big as before, with nearly 70 events in pubs, clubs, community centres, schools and the Half Moon Theatre in Stepney. Information from the Half Moon Theatre, 213 Mile End Road, London E1 (790 4000). Until Apr 1.

THE BOAT RACE: Can Oxford make it nine wins in a row or will Cambridge at last break their dismal sequence? For the first time in the 155-year history of the event both crews are led by overseas presidents, with Graham Jones from Australia in the Oxford boat and Steve Burger, the American, in Cambridge's. The race begins at Putney at 12.50pm and is being covered live in *Grandstand*, BBC1.

RUGBY UNION: The two unbeaten countries, Scotland and France, meet at Murrayfield to decide the international championship. Scotland have done better than even their most optimistic supporters could have hoped in winning the triple crown, but French pace and flair could prove too much. The whole match is shown live on *Grandstand*, BBC1, from 3pm. Today's other international, England v Wales, at Twickenham, is on BBC2, also from 3pm.

Tomorrow

LANCASTER LITERARY FESTIVAL: The opening event features Alan Bennett. Others appearing during the week include Maureen Duffy, Rose Tremain, Barry Hines and Julian Barnes, who will be discussing the state of the novel; the poets Kathleen Raine and Norman Nicholson; and the cartoonists Posy Simmonds and Mel Calman. Box office: The Duke's Playhouse, Moor Lane, Lancaster (0524 66645). Until Mar 25.

GALA FROM THE MET: The first of two programmes of highlights from the celebration gala held last October to mark the centenary of the Metropolitan Opera in New York. Among the artists appearing are Kiri Te Kanawa, Joan Sutherland, Elisabeth Söderström and Placido Domingo. Channel 4, 2.15-4.15pm. The second programme will be on Apr 8. On Mar 25 and Apr 1 on Channel 4 there will be a showing in two parts of last year's Met production of Verdi's *Don Carlos*.

Monday

TEST CRICKET: England will be hoping to salvage something from what has been an unhappy, and unlucky, winter tour when they meet Pakistan in the final Test of the three-match series in Lahore. Radio 3 is supplying commentary from lunch to the close of play, starting at 7.30am our time (except Fri, 8.30am).

STARLIGHT EXPRESS: Andrew Lloyd Webber's latest show is a multi-media entertainment in which a cast on roller skates portray locomotives and rolling stock of the American railroads. Lyrics by Richard Stilgoe; directed by Treveor Nunn; choreography by Arlene Phillips. Cast includes Stephanie Lawrence, Tom Jobe, Jeffrey Daniel, Lon Satton, P.P. Arnold. Apollo Victoria (828 6188). Previews today, Tues, Wed and Fri at 8pm. Royal Gala in presence of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on Thurs. Matinée preview Mar 24 at 3pm, Mar 26 at 8pm. Opens Mar 27 at 7pm.

THE FAINTHEARTED FEMINIST: Lynn Redgrave plays Martha, married with a young baby, who is urged by her feminist friend to strike a blow for women's lib by leaving her husband to look after the family. A new comedy series by Jill Tweedie and Christopher Bond, based on Ms Tweedie's column in *The Guardian*. BBC2, 9-9.30pm.

ROYAL FILM PERFORMANCE: Tonight's charity screening of *The Dresser*, starring Tom Courtenay and Albert Finney, is at the Odeon, Leicester Square, and is attended by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. The event is being covered on ITV (most regions, 10.30-11.15pm), including extracts from the film and interviews with the stars. See also page 17.

Tuesday

VICTORIAN SCULPTURE: Three-dimentional Victorian images remain much cheaper than Victorian pictures. A little girl climbing on to a bloodhound's back by Sir Joseph Edgar Boehm is lotted together with another terracotta by this distinguished artist and estimated at £1,600 to £1,800. A Thomas Wallis wood carving of a dead bird among foliage, the genre with which he made his name in 1851, is estimated at £400 to £600. There are also marbles and bronzes in the sale, which is of nineteenth-century European sculpture. Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (839 9060)at 11am.

UTOPIA: James Verner, who brought us *The Black Mikado*, has now adapted Gilbert and Sullivan's *Utopia Limited*. The music has been re-arranged with a Caribbean and West Indian flavour (the original has a South Seas background). The Utopian Royal Players perform the world premiere; musical director Geoff Deane; designed by Peter Farmer. Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham (021 643 1231). Opens today at 7.45pm. Until Mar 31, Mon-Fri at 7.45pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.15pm; matinées Wed at 2.30pm.

MANJIT: Lakviar Singh's play joins the Young Writers' Festival for three performances. A young Anglo-Indian boy's view of racial confusion in Britain today. Royal Court Theatre Upstairs (730 2554). Today, Thurs and Mar 27 at 2.15pm.

KEN RUSSELL'S ELGAR: A welcome repeat of Russell's famous television documentary from 1962 which is being shown to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Sir Edward Elgar. Among some memorable sequences are the pony ride through the Malvern Hills and Russell's ironic use of the *Pomp and Circumstance* music with shots of First World War graves. The film is narrated by Huw Wheldon. BBC2, 9.45-10.45pm.

HARD FEELINGS: The *Play for Today* examines the shifting relationships among a group of Oxford graduates and their friends who are living in a house in Brixton just before the 1981 riots. The author, Doug Lucie, has written several plays for the stage, including *Heroes* and *The New Garbo*, but this is his first television drama; the director is Mike Bradwell, who founded the Hull Truck Theatre Company. The cast is headed by Frances Barber, who is playing Marguerite Gautier in the RSC's *Camille* at Stratford next month (see page 16). BBC1, 9.25-10.50pm.

Wednesday

HISTORY FOR SALE: A first edition, published in 1614, of Sir Walter Ralegh's famous *History of the World* will be offered by Bloomsbury Book Auctions; there is a little damage and the estimate is only £200 to £300. There is also a collection of the Acts of Parliament passed by George III which so enraged the Americans, such as the Boston Port Act of 1774 discontinuing "the landing and discharging, lading or shipping, of goods ....", and the American Prohibitory Act of 1776, prohibiting all trade. Bloomsbury Book Auctions at the Kingsley Hotel, Bloomsbury Way, London WC1 (636 1945) at 1pm.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: Tenth-anniversary season for the Royal Shakespeare Company at the Other Place begins with Sheila Hancock's debut as a director. The cast includes Penny Downie, Doger Allam, David Whitaker, Frank Middlemass, Amanda Root. The Other Place, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 295623). Today, Thurs and Fri at 7.30pm. In repertory.

Thursday

MICHAEL AYRTON: One of British modern art's few true intellectuals, as handy with the pen and the typewriter as in his studio working on paintings and sculpture, Ayrton left a rich and complex legacy which we are only now beginning to sort out. This show includes paintings and sculptures, and tends to confirm the feeling that his earlier Neo-Romantic paintings and drawings were his best. Agnew's, 3 Albemarle Street, London W1 (629 6176). Until Apr 19, Mon-Fri 9.30am-5.30pm.

BRIDGET RILEY DANCE BOXES: Last year Bridget Riley made her first venture into ballet design with the Rambert's *Colour Moves*. In that she played a far more radical role than most designers in that choregraphy and music were both devised in relation to the backdrops and costumes. Now she has done two boxes (in fact, shallow frames), which contain a print based on the ballet designs and a battery-powered abstract figure which "dances" across this background. This essay in the kinetic is accompanied by a small show of studies for the ballet itself. Juda Rowan Gallery, 11 Tottenham Mews, London W1 (637 5517). Until Mar 31, Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-1pm.

DODIE'S FURS: Dodie Smith, 87, author of *The Hundred and One Dalmations*, is selling three of her furs in a sale of furs and fur coats: a brown kolinsky cape (estimate £200), a white ermine cape (£100), and a grey lamb coat (£50). "I used to wear them when I was writing plays and going to premieres. Now they just attract storage costs", she says. The Kolinsky is embroidered with her name. Phillips, Blenheim Street, London W1 (629 6602) at 10am.

TOYS GALORE: A sale devoted to toys, games, trains and lead soldiers contains a splendid group of motorized tinplate toys dating from around 1900: a barber massaging his customer's head, a young lady playing diebolo, a lawyer lifting his book and nodding his head, a negro in a top hat laughing. Christie's, South Kensington, 85 Brompton Road, London SW7 (581 2231) at 2pm.
Sale

FIRST DAY OF THE FLAT: The flat-racing season starts, by tradition, at Doncaster and four races are being televised: the Brocklesby Stakes (2.45pm), the Bertie Bassett Stakes (3.15pm), the Doncaster Mile (3.45pm) and the Batthany Handicap Stakes (4.15pm). The meeting is being covered for the first time on Channel 4, to which the ITV mid-week racing team has switched for the new season.

ALICE: Richard Scott and Anthony Phillips have been commissioned by the theatre to write a new rock musical loosely based on Lewis Carroll's *Alice Through the Looking Glass*. The time is the future, and Alice is about to be computer-dated with Charlie, the Magician. Nicholas Hytner directs. Leeds Playhouse (0532 442111). Opens today at 7.30pm. Until Apr 14, Mon and Tues at 8pm, Wed-Sat at 7.30pm; matinée Apr 14 at 3pm.

HENRY V: Opening production of the Royal Shakespeare Company's Stratford season (see page 16).

WORLD FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS: Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean are in action in Ottawa this week, hoping to add the world ice-dancing championship to the European and Olympic titles they have already secured this year. And who on earth can stop them? Today they perform their compulsory dance and tomorrow they repeat their paso doble routine to the music of Rimsky-Korsakov. Television coverage is on BBC1, 9.25-10.05pm, and ITV, 10.0-11pm.

Friday

BURMANTOFTS POTTERY: This turn-of-the-century line in Leeds pottery was originally an artistic offshoot of an existing production of sanitary and industrial ware. The designs were often quaintly grotesque, usually in the "aesthetic" taste of the day, and as a rule had some practical purpose, such as the umbrella stand, the candlestick, the clock-case and the vase. The factory also went in for titles and architectural ceramics, and both are well represented in this show, which originated in the North. Geffrye Museum, Kingsland Road, London E2 (739 8368). Until May 20, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm.

COURTLY PLEASURE: One of the delights of this sale of nineteenth-century paintings is a picture of King Ferdinand of Naples and his court enjoying a country picnic on a shooting expedition. They have brought chairs with them and built a grass roof to protect the diners. It is dated 1847 and painted by Filippo Palizzi, the most distinguished Neapolitan artist of the period. It has been sent for sale by "a European noble family", one of whose ancestors may have been at the party. Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (839 9060) at 11am.

STREAMERS: The new Robert Altman film, based on the play by David Rabe, is similar in style to his last, *Come Back to the Five and Dime Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*. It is the story of a group of young American army recruits waiting in their barracks to be sent off to Vietnam and discussing sex, violence and friendships. Winner of six Golden Lion Awards at last year's Venice Film Festival. Cert 18. Classic Haymarket (839 1527); Gate Notting Hill (221 0220/727 5750).

LA BALANCE: Film about French cops, prostitutes, informers and underworld crime, lifted by the brisk, authentic style of American-born director Bob Swaim. With Nathalie Baye, Philippe Leotard, Richard Berry. Winner of the Cesar award for the best French film of 1982. Cert 18. Classic Tottenham Court Road (636 6148); Odeon Kensington (602 6644); Screen on the Hill (435 3366).

JACK THE LAD: Described as "a giant fairy tale for adults", this new show uses mime, dance, song and sketches to tell the stories of "lovable villains" of history and literature. Written by David Wood and Dave and Toni Arthur. Library Theatre, Manchester (061 236 7110). Preview today at 7.30pm, opens Mar 24 at 7.30pm. Until Apr 14, Tues-Sat at 7.30pm; matinée Mar 28 at 2.30pm.

MAORI – THE NEW DAWN: After the steady erosion of their culture for so many years, the Maoris of New Zealand are striving to regain their national consciousness. Michael Dean, himself a New Zealander, reports on how the Maoris have revived their language, art and traditions and inspired their young with a new pride – and a new anger. BBC2 7.45-8.35pm.

MAN OF LETTERS: The latest in a series of plays by writers new to television is a period comedy by Gillian Hawser and John Graham about a 12-year-old boy's ambition to fill his summer holiday writing the great autobiographical novel. He is played by Alan Cox, son of the actor Brian Cox, and the cast also includes Michael Jayston and Stacy Dorning. BBC2, 10-10.35pm.

Week following

Mar 24 Lincoln Handicap, Doncaster; Milk Cup Final, Everton v Liverpool, Wembley.

Collecting

Guarantees for the rights of passage

"Not I, faith", said Mr Yorick, when asked in Paris if he had a British passport. The hero of Sterne's *A Sentimental Journey* had slipped through unchecked at Calais. On hearing of the lack of papers "the master of the hotel retired three steps from me as if from an infected person". The year was 1768. Now, as then, a passport is a desirable document for those intent on foreign travel.

The origins of the passport are lost in history. The Public Records Office in London has a memorandum from a Foreign Office official referring to Moses in respect of a passport. The medieval "testimoniale" was a letter from an ecclesiastical superior carried by a pilgrim to protect him from charges of vagrancy. However the modern booklet may be regarded as a direct descendant of a letter from the monarch given to members of the court to facilitate travel.

St John Bates, who lectures in constitutional law at Edinburgh University and collects passports, points out that until we joined the EEC British passports were issued solely under the prerogative of the Crown. Theoretically an individual could be denied one for any reason or for none and could not challenge the denial in the courts.

To St John Bates a post-First World War booklet complete with photograph would be of little interest. A collectable item would typically be a lightish piece of paper about 30cm by 40cm, issued by any one of a number of agencies. In the case of nineteenth-century documents the writing would not be too different in style and grandeur from that on an old white £5 note.

The forerunner of the passport photograph was a list of facial characteristics which the holder was left to fill in himself. This gave plenty of scope for creative writing and more than once a correspondent to *The Times* inveighed against bureaucratic interference with his description of himself. For instance the gentleman who




Going places: The entry for Virginia Woolf in her husband Leonard's passport, and a passport of Mussolini's dated December 27, 1921, with his signature across the picture

considered his own face "intelligent" was not amused to find that word deleted and the epithet "oval" substituted.

On the application form an MP would sign that the prospective holder had furnished a true description. In the days when both foreign travel and Parliament were for the privileged few, the chances are the MP did know the applicant personally. MPs are still among those who can sign a passport photo.

Collections might be based around a country, signature or issuing authority. When travel was less common a passport was often for a specific trip, which can be traced through the visa stamps. In times of war, when waves of refugees cross frontiers, unusual authorities issue passports. Internal passports are still used by governments to control movements from region to region.

Obviously some passports have particular historical significance. Those issued in Scotland to Spanish sailors from the Armada were respected in England when the bearers had the misfortune to be shipwrecked a second time on their way home. Among the passports signed by Charles I was one requiring officials to allow "Our Nephueu Prince Rupert to passe from these o(ur) Dominions into ye parts beyond ye Seas".

While most old passports are just a single sheet of paper some come in the leather folder in which they were originally carried. Particularly interesting are such relics incorporated in a diary or traveller's journal, with all the background detail to hand.

The provenance of a passport can also enhance its interest. In 1972 Sotheby's sold one used by Mussolini during 1922, the year of the march on Rome. It was signed twice by him, once across the photograph. Included in the lot were a clothcase and a silk-lined black and gilt morocco case stamped with the crest and motto of Ian Fleming. It had come via Maundy Gregory, described as a "British adventurer", A. J. A. Symons (author and bibliophile) and Fleming to its then owner. The price realized was £1,200. For the less illustrious eighteenth or nineteenth-century passport the current price is around £10-£25. In 1980 passports of 1812 were selling for as little as £1 at auction.

If computerized plastic cards are the passports of the future then the old-style navy and gold British booklet may soon be no more than a memento with a clipped-off corner. At the other end of the scale a letter signed by Elizabeth I in order that her ambassador Sir Nicholas Throckmorton might cross the border at Berwick was sold at Sotheby's for £4,600 in 1980.

Stopping place: Confusion at a checkpoint in Venice, 1854

Anne Cowan

Out and About/Sailing

When it's time to batten down the hatches

There have to be bad times. Sailing off the British coast is sailing in the epicentre of four vigorous weather systems that lay siege from opposite corners of the compass. Any yachtsman must assume that some day, somewhere, the nearby isobars will take on the contours of a cliff down which the wind will avalanche. If the gale-force blast happens to run straight into a strong tide inshore, the sea will quickly become a heaving, tossing monster that can easily overwhelm a small sailing cruiser.

People react to such conditions in oddly unpredictable ways. They may bury their heads in a bucket and not care if the waters close over them. Or they may turn immediately for the coast in the mistaken belief that safety lies automatically in that direction and ignoring perhaps the fact that on a lee shore the friendliest harbour mouth may grow dangerous teeth. Some adventurers grit their teeth and actually revel in the surge of sea overtaking the keel and threatening to broach the hull.

They accept, quite rightly in most cases, that a yacht is built to withstand far more punishment than a human frame or spirit can stand and that the safest place to be in bad weather is well away from land and clear of those waves that have hard centres. The Fastnet tragedy proved emphatically that even a badly damaged yacht will keep floating long after the crew have lost confidence and departed in the life raft and long after the storm has rolled away.

British weather forecasters have a notoriously difficult and thankless job. Even with highly developed techniques and satellite pictures you may find that the gale predicted for the sea area in which you happen to be sailing does not materialize and that the wind does no more than unleash a few white horses.

Remember that sea areas are large. It is quite likely that a gale has developed but it may well not reach the patch of sea you are occupying. Some assume that all forecasters are conservative and cry wolf too often, but



such assumptions may lead unwary skippers directly on to that isobaric cliff edge.

The approach of really bad weather is generally signalled both by the Met Men and by a host of other natural clues. Mares-tails flying in an apparently windless sky, the breeze suddenly backing as the air becomes close, the frowning bar of lead-grey cloud marking a line squall, a halo around the moon or a dawn heralded by avividly red sky: all can signify unsettled weather.

High cloud travelling across the sky in a different direction from lower clouds being carried on the established wind signal the thin end of a frontal wedge moving in.

But however keen a weather eye is kept, the elements occasionally move too fast for a small yacht to reach shelter. So a vessel and crew must always be prepared for the worst.

I can remember the day that, sailing in Copenhagen Sound, I read an article headed "The gentle seas of Denmark". It had lauded the tideless, sheltered excellence of Danish waters. Within an hour of our setting sail in our 28ft Shipman Sloop the sky above Hamlet's Castle on the narrow straight between Helsingor and Hälsingborg turned from bright and clear into an ominous line of heavy cloud.

As the cloud approached we could see the flat bruising on the water beneath it, marking strong and confused gusts of wind. We were unprepared and I was the only one on board with the faintest idea of what to do. The big genoa was set with a full main, all hatches were open and no lifelines were rigged and until then the boat had been cruising serenely northwards along the coast.

The sledgehammer of wind hit us broadside. The Shipman went over alarmingly and screwed her head round into the wind. The violent flapping in the sails rooted the crew to the deck, saucer-eyed. From below came the crash of glassware and crockery repositioning itself in bits about the cabin. Sheets flew, sails tumbled and the hull bucked and hammered aimlessly – I was releasing halyards as no one would go near the helm.

We were close to shallows but thankfully on the weather shore; even so I recalled how a really severe wind could plane a foot or more off the water depth. It took an age to set the small jib and I nearly went overboard clambering in panic back to the cockpit.

The head came round, she jibed her stern to the blast and immediately picked up speed, registering nine knots on the log as the swell sent us surging across the open sea towards Sweden. The Thor-forged bar of sky iron rolled eastwards and behind it the sun returned. We cleared up the mess, reset the sails as the wind dropped and soon returned to our earlier sedate pace.

But it had been an instructive moment of chaos. I vowed to pay more attention to any warning signs in the sky and shorten sail before the event rather than during it – particularly when I was the only person on board with any idea of how to control the boat. It also reminded me of the many points that I had not checked with more than half a glance before setting sail, such as the tautness of the shrouds and stays, the bottle screws on the rigging, the reefing system, lifelines and harnesses.

Mind you, checking equipment can be done too conscientiously: one enthusiast decided to give his life raft, which he stored in a garden shed, a pre-season once-over. He was so thorough he went into the shed and unthinkingly pulled the automatic inflation cord to check that it was functional. It was – and the life raft was bigger than the shed.

Ronald Faux

Hunting

A photograph used to illustrate an article on fox hunting on February 11 showed the New Forest buckhounds, not foxhounds

THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Gilts facing both ways but looking up

The Bank of England broke a habit yesterday, and refrained from tapping the gilts market with a new issue, despite an excellent crop of economic data. Some claim that the Bank and Treasury are so relaxed about the funding programme that they could afford to stay out of the market, and let gilts enjoy a run. Others argue that the news from America is still so ambigious that the Government Broker is refusing to take the risk of nailing his colours to the mast, by funding, when US rates look set to rise.

The two-way interplay of sentiment was reflected in prices. Shorts put on ⅜ of a point, while long-dated stock rose by ½ point. A better performance, however, might have been expected. The market advances, or only to run into selling.

All the UK economic numbers fell neatly into place, creating the pattern of a virtuous circle. Building societies cut their mortgage rates by a full point to 10¼ per cent: February inflation edged up fractionally on a month-by-month basis of comparision, but was unchanged at 5.1 per cent, measured year on year the Treasury Bill tender, at 8.35 per cent, was down about 20 basis points.

The Public Sector Borrowing Requirement figures for last month were even more exciting. Just three days ago, the Chancellor forecast that the PSBR for the year to the end of March would be £10bn. Last month's data seems to make nonsense of that forecast. Government borrowed just £0.2bn last month, bringing the cumulative figure for 11 months of the financial year to £7.8bn. The full year figure could finish around the £8½bn, some £1½bn under forecast.

These figures, taken together, look tailor-made for funding, but events on the other side of the Atlantic were less clear cut. Gilts were initially cheered by President Reagan's announcement for plans to curb the Budget deficit by $150bn in the next three years. Then it dawned on the market that the President was dealing inside the Republican Party; the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives might make it substantially more difficult for him to back his words with legislation.

Meanwhile, the real US economy, and its financial counterpart appear to be facing in different directions. America's money supply figures looked sweet. M1, for the week ended March 5, fell by about $1.4bn, and with some possibility that social security cheques were still lodged in the banking system, the underlying figure might be far lower.

Broad US monetary aggregates, for last month, also published yesterday, show American money supply either right in the middle of the target range (M1); on target (M2); or fractionally over target (M3). And, as corporation tax payment pressures eased, the Federal funds dropped to 9¾ per cent. Paradoxically, however, the long bond slipped back by about ¼ point, as the dollar moved ahead sharply on the foreign exchange market, touching the DM2.63 mark, and pushing sterling down to $1.44.

The confusion stemmed from the hard news, notably housing starts. At 2.3 million last month, they showed an 11.2 per cent gain, far more than the bond market expected.

With America giving ambiguous readings, and sterling weakening quite sharply, the Bank of England may be reluctant to push a tap stock whose coupon alone might send strong signals to the foreign exchange markets. At the same time, traders in short gilts feel that the differential between base rates and the average yield on shorts, at some two points, is now far too wide and prices are bound to move ahead quite sharply.

Services with an impenetrable smile

Over the past week a high-powered mission from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been going the rounds in London gleaning ideas about how Japan's service industries might be liberalized. Its host has been the liberalization of trade in services sub-committee of the British Invisible Exports Council.

Liberalization of trade in services is a fashionable theme, and Japan's reputation as one of the world's more impenetrable markets has not stopped its Government from supporting the American campaign at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade for lessening restraints on the international trade in services. How far the latest in a long line of Japanese overseas inquiries is intended to improve the efficiency of Japan's domestic service sector and how far it is really aimed at opening up the Japanese market to foreigners, is an interesting question.

There is no doubt about the importance of the mission. Its 14 members, led by a former Ambassador to London, are part of a special study commission established by the Foreign Ministry last November. The itinerary has included Germany, Luxembourg, and Sweden, and will take in France, Canada and the United States, over about a month.

The mission's brief, moreover, is to concentrate on the three key areas of financial services, telecommunications, and distribution and retailing. it is well aware that in all three Japan's tight regulation and separation from the outside world have produced practices and structures which are uncompetitive and incompatible internationally. By British standards, for instance, Japan's retailing and distribution system is fragmented and localized. consequences are higher prices for consumers and frustration for foreign exporters trying to sell their wares. Tight controls over interest rates and who may operate in the huge government bond market hamper both Japanese banks in their overseas business and foreign banks wanting to break into Japan.

Many of these practices are rooted in social structures dating back two millenia. Little of what the mission will learn, least of all general attitudes such as allowing the market freer reign, can be implemented quickly or more than partially. Even with the best will in the world – and that itself is a subject for scepticism – the chances of the Japanese Government throwing open its service markets to foreign competition are remote. What is much more likely is that when foreign companies are allowed to compete in Japan on more of an equal footing they will find that in the meantime Japanese service industries have been reorganized to resist the challenge.

That is fair enough, but the British, among others, might do well to follow the Japanese example on how to cope with the slow but sure liberalization of trade in services.

The cost of kindness to companies

Cynics have long argued that Britain is one of the world's greatest tax havens, and the Chancellor's decision to cut the basic rate of corporation tax to 35 per cent by 1986 has fueled the belief. Not only will the rate be one of the lowest on offer, but for subsidiaries of US parents the benefits of the refund of advance corporation tax will reduce their effective tax rate to a meagre 28 per cent.

Mr Bob White and Mr Tony Hughes of accountants Deloitte Haskins and Sells have been slaving over their calculators. They maintain that at present the refunded ACT, which is paid by the Inland Revenue to the US parent company, brings the effective rate of corporation tax down from 52 per cent to 46 per cent. Their forecast of 28 per cent assumes that the basic rate of income tax falls to 25 per cent.

If they are right the Americans will be pleased but it would pose some questions about the validity of the UK–US double tax treaty which permits such a curious anomaly.

The refund of ACT is also given to other countries, including Holland, Switzerland, Luxembourg and several of the Nordic countries. The tax treaties with these countries are now ripe for renegotiation, otherwise Britain will become not only a tax haven, but also a charity.

Founder's charity sells half its stake in Rank Organisation

By Philip Robinson

The Rank Foundation yesterday sold more than half its stake in the Rank Organisation, raising £26.4m to finance charity work.

The foundation, set up by Lord Rank 20 years ago, once controlled the company but its stake was diluted to about 10 per cent in the mid-1970s when non-voting shares were enfranchised. Rank has remained the foundation's sole asset.

When Rank slashed its dividend as profits slumped a year ago, it sparked considerable concern for the charity. Yesterday's sale, through stockbrokers Cazenove, was being seen in the City as hedging bets against the performance of the new management put in by the institutions in the past 12 months and confirmed by shareholders just 24 hours before the share sale.

Mr Michael B. Gifford, former finance director of Cadbury Schweppes and now Rank managing director and chief executive, said: "I don't see it quite like that. For years the foundation has had all its eggs in one basket. It is only prudent to spread the investments. I think it is a gesture of confidence that they are still substantial shareholders with 5 per cent."

A spokesman for the foundation was unavailable last night. Mr Robin Cowen, former trustee chairman, son-in-law of the late Lord Rank and a non-executive Rank director, was on his way to India. However, it is known that Sir John Davis, former Rank chairman, and a trustee, was in favour of the sale.

One close observer of Rank said the sale was probably to take advantage of the current buoyant share price.

The shares were lifted a couple of pence on Thursday following bullish comments from Sir Patrick Meaney, Rank's non-executive chairman. Yesterday they opened at 264p, eased 6p as the share placing went through, and then recovered all earlier falls to close 2p up at 266p. In the past 12 months the shares have been as low as 104p.

Some commentators were last night drawing a cautious parallel with the sale four years ago of shares in British Leyland by the Nuffield Foundation, set up by Lord Nuffield, founder of Morris Motors, which was later absorbed into BL. That was then seen as a significant vote of no confidence.

Mr Michael Richardson, of N. M. Rothschild, merchant bank adviser to the Rank Foundation, said: "The whole of the resources were in Rank Organisation shares. It seemed crazy to have all the eggs in the one basket."

The foundation reckons it can improve its income if the money is spread internationally. Part of its income was revived this year when the Rank dividend was raised to 10p returning it to 1979 levels. It was funded by pre-tax profits up from £63.7m to £69.3m.

Dollar gains on pound

Agreement on a package to cut the US budget deficit and signs that the US economy is still moving ahead strongly helped to push up the dollar

It closed more than 4 pfennigs higher against the Deutschemark at DM 2.6205, having reached DM 2.63 at one point. Sterling lost 1.6 cents to $1.4470.

On the London stock market more than £2,000m was added to the value of shares as the FT 30 share index closed, 18.7 higher at 894.3.

Market report, page 22

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1128.5 up 13.4 (High 1131.3, low 1115.8)
FT Index: 894.3 up 18.7
FT Gilts: 83.33 up 0.21
FT All Share: 528.89 up 10.15
Bargains: 28,941
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 111 59 up 1.12
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest): 1187.08 up 19.68
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,458.31 up 111.32
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1130 69 up 19.63
Amsterdam: 170.9 up 4.6
Sydney: AO Index 721.9 unchanged
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1038 9 up 18.9
Brussels: General Index 144.65 up 1 26
Paris: CAC Index 161.3 up 1.3
Zurich: SKA General Index: 309.10 up 3.80

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling
$1 4470 down 1.6pts
Index 80.9 up 0.1
DM 3.7900 up 0.0125
FrF 11.6925 up 0.0425
Yen 327.00 down 0.01

Dollar
Index 126.7 up 0.8
DM 2.6205 up 0.0405

NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1 4560
Dollar DM 2.6260

INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.589435
SDR £0.731436

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 8½
Finance houses base rate 9½
Discount market loans week fixed 9⅝
3 month interbank 9 13/16 - 8¾

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10 5/16 - 10 7/16
3 month DM 5¾ - 5⅝
3 month Fr F15⅞ - 15⅞

US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9 11/16
Treasury long bond 97 2/16 - 97 4/15

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period February, 8 to March 6, 1984 inclusive: 9.373 per cent.

'Safety net' plea by insurers

By Jonathan Clare

The life insurance industry is likely to lobby the Chancellor to allow it to keep its special concessionary rate of corporation tax when the general rate comes down to 35 per cent in 1986-87.

Profits to shareholders of the quoted life companies are charged at the full rate, but profits to policy holders are taxed at only 37.5 per cent. The reduction in the general rate means that the concessionary rate will wither away and the Budget proposals indicate it will be abolished.

These proposals are beneficial to the life companies, but they are concerned that a future Labour Government will increase the general rate of corporation tax.

If the concessionary rate has been abolished, the tax on profits attributable to policy holders will be scooped up in the general rise. However, if it is retained and merely becomes inoperative as the general rate falls to 35 per cent, it will remain as a safety net against any future changes of tax policy.

The concessionary rate was introduced in 1938 when taxes were rising to meet increased expenditure on armaments.

Mr Chris Hitchings of Hoare Govett, the stockbrokers, said abolition would be a "mildly bearish" point for the companies, but the Budget proposals would see an improvement in net profits to shareholders.

● London and Manchester Group, the life assurance and pensions company, yesterday reported a rise in life premium income to £99.4m last year (£75.7m in 1982) largely because of increased business after the introduction of MIRAS (mortgage interest relief at source). The final dividend of 11.48p makes 16.45p for the year, against 13.65p last time.

Year-end inflation of 4.5% 'now in sight'

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Budget week was rounded off yesterday with two pieces of pleasing economic news for the Government. State borrowing in the financial year just ending now looks likely to undershoot the £10 billion official forecast, reaffirmed by the Chancellor only last Tuesday.

And the annual inflation rate in February was unchanged from January at 5.1 per cent, prompting Mr Tom King, the Employment Secretary, to claim that the Government's forecast of 4.5 per cent inflation by the end of the year was "already in sight".

The public sector borrowed £237m in February, rather less than the City had expected, to bring the total for the first 11 months of 1983-84 to £7.8 billion. Most City analysts are confidently predicting a full year outcome of around £9 billion to £9.5 billion, well within the £1 billion average range of error for Treasury Budget forecasts.

Last year the forecast was more than £1.5 billion too low, when an eleventh-hour spending spree by government departments took the Treasury by surprise.

The March borrowing surge would have to be on last year's scale of £2.4 billion for the 1983-84 total to reach £10 billion, however. Though town halls typically borrow heavily in the month (and petroleum revenue tax, paid in a lump in March last year, is now spread more evenly), a repetition of the 1983 spending spree is not expected. This suggests the the Government's Budget forecast was deliberately pitched on the cautious side.

Spending by government departments, which surged ahead last spring, now looks under better control, helped by the proceeds of asset sales which count as negative spending. The Treasury expects spending in 1983-84 to show a 7.5 per cent increase over 1982-83 (6.5 per cent after allowing for special factors), some 2 per cent more than planned. But oil revenues more bouyant than predicted, have mitigated the impact on public borrowing.

Treasury figures also show that the redefinition of state borrowing to exclude public sector bank deposits, which takes effect for 1984-85, would have lowered the 11-month total to February by £600m, to only £7.2 billion.

The 0.4 per cent rise in prices in February, which brought the retail price index to 344.0, (Jan 1974 = 100) was mainly the result of higher prices for food and drink and for clothes, footwear and household durables

The Treasury expects the annual inflation rate to hover above 5 per cent until the summer before falling gently to 4.5 per cent by the year-end. This takes account of the Budget measures on excise duties and VAT

Full listing planned by Connells

By Ian Griffiths

Connells, the estate agent, yesterday announced plans for a full listing on the Stock Exchange. The cut in the building societies' mortgage rate brought smiles to the Kleinwort Benson bankers who are offering 3.12 million shares at 120p.

The only worry that Kleinworts and brokers L. Messel had was that the price was set too low. When trading starts next week a price of up to 140p is expected, but brokers and bankers admitted that anything above that would prove embarrassing.

Connells has 29 offices within a 60-mile radius of London, but none in the capital itself. Turnover in 1983 was £5.1m and has increased steadily from £1.9m in 1978. The pretax profits have risen from £118,000 in 1978 to £1.5m in 1983.

The improvement in margins is largely due to the efforts of Mr Eddie Moss, Connells' senior partner, who has injected both enthusiasm and efficiency into the organization.

The commisssion system which inspired Mr Moss's employees also provides an incentive for hi. His service agreement gives him a salary of £40,000 and a share of residential property profits which would have been worth a further £60,000 has it been in operation in 1983.

Polly Peck nears Japan car deal

By William Kay
City Editor

Polly Peck shares, which were hit on Thursday by the Mellins receivership, bounced back yesterday on confirmation of reports that the group has exchanged letters of intent with Daihatsu Motor of Japan.

The two companies are to launch feasibility studies amied at Polly Peck making Daihatsu cars under licence in Turkey.

Polly Peck, headed by Mr Asil Nadir, has embarked on similar deals with Metal Box, Thorn EMI and Racal. They are part of Mr Nadir's grand plan to ally western expertise with Turkey's resources.

If all goes well, Daihatsu will grant Polly Peck exclusive rights to make and distribute "selected vehicles" in Turkey, and non-exclusive rights to locally produced vehicles in other countries.

Mr Nadir is expected to announce next month details of a three-way merger between Polly Peck and his two other quoted companies, Cornell and Wearwell. This would be an opportunity to give the combined group a name more in keeping with its role as a Mediterranean trader.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hamilton tax boost

Hamilton Oil announced yesterday that the Budget proposals could save it £7m in tax, more than its annual profit for 1983 of £6.49m.

The independent oil concern, which a year ago merged its British and United States companies, said the profit reflected accounting policies generally accepted in the US, under which exploration costs are charged as expenses when incurred.

● **The London** Meat Futures Exchange opened yesterday morning, with brisk trading on the floor of the Baltic Exchange. Its initial contract is in pigmeat, the only red meat whose price is not supported by the European Community's Common Agricultural Policy. If the contract is successful, a beef contract will follow.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am $392.80 pm $392.75
close $393.75-$394.25 (£272.00-£272.50)
New York (latest): $394.50
Krugerrand* (per coin):
$404.00-$405.50 (£279.50-280.00)
Sovereigns* (new):
$92.00-$93.00 (£63.50-64.25)
*Excludes VAT

Texaco to trim assets

By Michael Prest

Texaco, the third biggest oil company in the United States, will dispose of assets worth up to $2,500m (£1,724m) to help reduce the debt incurred by its purchase of Getty Oil, Mr Alfred DeCrane, president of Texaco, said yesterday.

The asset sales, which will mainly be properties in areas other than energy, are part of a programme which started on Thursday with the launch in London of an $800m convertible Eurobond issue, the biggest such issue the markets have seen.

Mr DeCrane said that after paying $10,100m for Getty, Texaco's debt to equity ratio had risen from 19 per cent to 50 per cent.

Director's departure sparks speculation

Takeover feared at Disney

From Nick Gilbert, New York

The sudden resignation this week of director Mr Roy E Disney from Walt Disney productions has sent a wave of speculation through Wall Street that he may launch a takeover or boardroom battle for control of the company

Takeover candidates are rumoured to include RCA. Coca-Cola was thought to be interested but has denied any predatory intent. An additional possibility is that te company may turn itself from a publicly quoted to a private company.

Mr Roy Disney was re-elected to the board only two weeks ago but has suddenly quit, saying nothing beyond the curt statement that it was "for personal reasons". Mr Irwin Okun, Disney's corporate vice-president, said in Burbank, California: "We were very surprised by the move. If there were policy differences they were not noticeable".

Mr Roy Disney's departure coincides with the launch of *Splash*, a comic film about a mermaid featuring a touch of nudity and the odd naughty word – a major departure from the traditional animal-loving, clean-living Disney image. But the company maintains that Mr Roy Disney never showed any marked objections. The film, released across the US last weekend, turned in a record $602m.

Mr Disney, who runs his own private ranching, radio and TV station company, Shamrock Holdings, is the largest individual holder in Disney with some 750,000 shares.

The Disney family owns large blocks of shares but years ago the company took steps to strengthen its independance. A takeover needs the approval of 80 per cent of the shareholders under its internal company rules.

Disney's earnings have slumped in recent years after large losses in films and heavy expenditure on the £1 billion Epcot entertainment centre in Florida. Last year net profits fell to £93m from £100m

MARKET REPORT ● by Michael Clark

Index nudges the 900 level

The London Stock Market came within a whisker of the all-important 900 mark yesterday in one of the most hectic trading sessions ever witnessed by dealers on the trading floor.

More than £2,000m was added to the value of share quotations as investors chased prices sharply higher in an attempt to pre-empt the strong start to trading in New York following the better than expected US money supply figures overnight.

The *FT* index closed below its best level of the day 18.7 higher at 894.3 having been 20.4 up earlier in the day. That is a two day gain of nearly 30 points and a rise on the week of 53.4 (6.4 per cent).

Dealers reckon the index could hit 1,000 by June if this pace can be sustained. The new *FT-SE* 100 also scaled new heights rising a massive 27.4 to 1128.5. As dealers left for the weekend at the close of business last ight DataStream calculated that share prices had risen more than £7,900m in value to £184.034bn since the Chancellor finished giving his Budget speech on Tuesday evening.

A new wave of confidence has swept the market enhanced yesterday by the latest cut of 1 per cent in building societies' home loans rates.

Most of the action was in blue chips where double figures gains proved common, although prices closed below their best levels after hours as profit taking developed. **BP** extended Thursday's rise with a leap of 28p to 478p following recent figures. **Shell** also improved 5p to 675p for a similar reason along with **TI Group** 10p to 290p – for a two day rise of 40p – as it continued to enjoy a rerating. Analysts are looking for pretax profits of about £38m next year.

Other blue chips to make headway included **Allied-Lyons** 3p to 176p, **BTR** 5p to 479p, **Beecham** 8p to 338p, **Blue Circle** 12p to 445p, **BOC Group** 15p to 288p, **Bowater** 4p to 279p **Courtaulds** 3p to 143p, **Distillers** 9p to 273p, **GEC** 10p to 208p **Glaxo** 20p to 775p, **Grand Metropolitan** 10p to 338p, and **Hawker Siddeley** 12p to 414p.

Mr Jeffrey Sterling, chairman of Peninsular & Oriental, refused to comment yesterday on suggestions that he had again been buying **P & O** shares in the market. Mr Sterling's other publicly quoted company Sterling Guarantee currently owns 3 per cent of P & O.

Earlier this week the Monopolies Commission gave Trafalgar House the all-clear to proceed with its all share offer for P & O, which is now capitalized at £425m.

Mr Nigel Broackes, chairman of Trafalgar, is still thinking about it. P & O advanced 4p to 306p, while Sterling Guarantee added 1½p to 55½p and Trafalgar House rose 13p to 244p.

Gilts perked up a little after the pressure on US interest rates subsided for the time being with gains of up to £½ at the longer end £⅛ in shorts. The latest PSBR showed only a modest increase and were better than most experts had feared.

The big banks failed to join in the fun elsewhere in the market fearing increased competition from the building societies. Earlier gains were mostly wiped out with **Lloyds** closing unchanged at 597p, after 604p, and **National Westminster** losing 5p at 664p, after 672p. **Barclays** closed a net 4p up on the day at 539p and **Midland** 3p at 397p.

The life insurance companies encountered cheap buying, but still closed below the best levels of the day. **Britannic** rose 10p to 438p, **Equity & Law** 5p at 717p, **Hambro Life** 2p to 398p, **London & Manchester** 15p to 451p, **Pearl Assurance** 18p to 737p, **Prudential Corporation** 10p to 443p. **Refuge Assurance** 5p to 428p and **Sun Life** 11p to 586p.

The cut in home loans gave stores another fillip on the hope that money saved on mortgage repayments would be spent in the shops. **Debenhams** responded with a 13p rise to 171p, **House of Fraser** 6p to 274p, **Harris Queensway** 14p to 362p, **MFI** 11p to 184p, **British Home Stores** 8p to 246p, **Boots** 5p to 181p, **Burton** 16p to 271p and **Marks & Spencer** 4p to 271p.

Profit taking clipped 4p from **Grattans** at 86p following Thursday's return to the black with a much better than expected pretax profits of £3.5m. The group said the improvement stemmed from higher volume sales, less drastic markdowns and more stability among the agents.

Grattan is now concentrating hard on increasing the level of sales per agent and is investing heavily in new automation of its warehouse to build on last year's second half recovery.

In electricals BICC and Electronic Rentals appear unhappy with the Budget assessment of the broker, Phillips & Drew, that they would lose out as a result of changes in corporation tax. The broker suggested that Electronic Rentals would suffer a 30 per cent reduction in actual tax earnings and that BICC would see a drop of 23 per cent, but both companies are now saying the effect would be broadly neutral.

BICC ended the day 10p higher at 278p, but **Electronic Rentals** was unchanged 57p.

On the Unlisted Securities Market **DJ Security Alarms** jumped 35p to 133p after the board revealed it received an approach that may lead to an offer for the share capital of the company. A further announcement will be made as soon as possible. DJ, which specialises in installing burglar alarms later closed at 120p – a net rise on the day of 22p.

The bid rumours continue to bolster shares of Lloyds broker **Hogg Robinson**, up another 4p at 210p.

Sangers Photographic, USM-quoted offshoot of Sangers, held steady at 26p yesterday despite the news that two suppliers have recently bought 510,000 shares, (5.0 per cent) between them. Mr David Hamilton, finance director, said the two companies, Photo Album Specialists and Soframe of Huntingdon, had not been in touch and he did not know if they intended to buy more shares. They bought the stake at about 27p.

Shares of AE (Associated Engineering), the Midlands motor components group, rose by 4p to 96½p yesterday as brokers anticipated that the Monopolies Commission would give clearance next week for a renewed takeover attempt by Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds. Laurence Prust believe the GKN will have to pay between 150p and 200p a share to succeed; Phillips and Drew argue that GKN will have to make a 3-for-4 share offer (worth 159p a share).

Shares of Johnson & Firth Brown, the Sheffield engineering group, have risen by 6p to 17p over the past two weeks after strong support Mr Roy Shepherd, the chief executive, has already bought 170,000 shares and has said he will continue to buy.

MONEY MARKETS

The market found the going a good deal more difficult when faced with a £700m shortage for the second day running. There was much less liquidity after the £699m of bills sold to the authorities on Thursday.

There remained about £1.6 billion of bills in the hands of the Bank of England after the purchase and resale agreements of recent weeks.

Therefore, the Bank had to include another "repo" in its programme of assistance. It had bought £307m of bills outright across all four bands at established intervention rates another, special, early operation.

At lunchtime it made a further £53m of outright purchases and arranged £198m of purchase and resale agreements at interest rates in the range of 8½ to ⅝ per cent. Bill operations reached £592m when the Bank bought a further £34m in the afternoon.

During the morning, houses could make only slow progress on bids in the range of 8¾ to 8⅝ per cent.

A sudden flow of money, towards the end of the session, however, enabled books to be ruled off within bounds of 8 to 8¼ per cent.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

An 11.2 per cent rise in February US housing starts and slightly higher industrial plant utilization helped the dollar to continue reversing its recent weaker trend and send sterling below 1.45. The pound lost 1.6 cents on theday, closing at 1.4470. The trade weighted index finished 0.1 up at 80.9.

Prospects of a ½ point rise in US prime lending rates next week are boosting the dollar, say dealers. It has gained more than four pfennigs on the week and 13 French centimes.

Dealers said the housing starts, including a January revision which may have been a five-year high, was sufficient after Thursday's 1.2 per cent rise in US indistrial production to give the dollar a fillip to a day's high of DM2.6290.

It finished below the best, but still more than four phennigs firmer at DM2.6205 (2.58), up 11 centimes at 8.0750 French francs nd 60 points better to Swiss francs at 2.1410. It also gained 1¾ yen at 225.50.

After DM2.8, the pound finished with a two pfennig rise at DM3.7975 and a 4¼ gain on French francs at 11.6925. It also gained 2½ Dutch cents at 4.2875, although a centime cheaper to Swiss francs at 3.1175 and 1¼ yen lower at 326.75.

WALL STREET

Budget boost for Dow

New York (AP-Dow Jones) – Wall Street stocks were sharply higher in early trading yesterday in a rally triggered primarily by a compromise reached on the US budget by the White House.

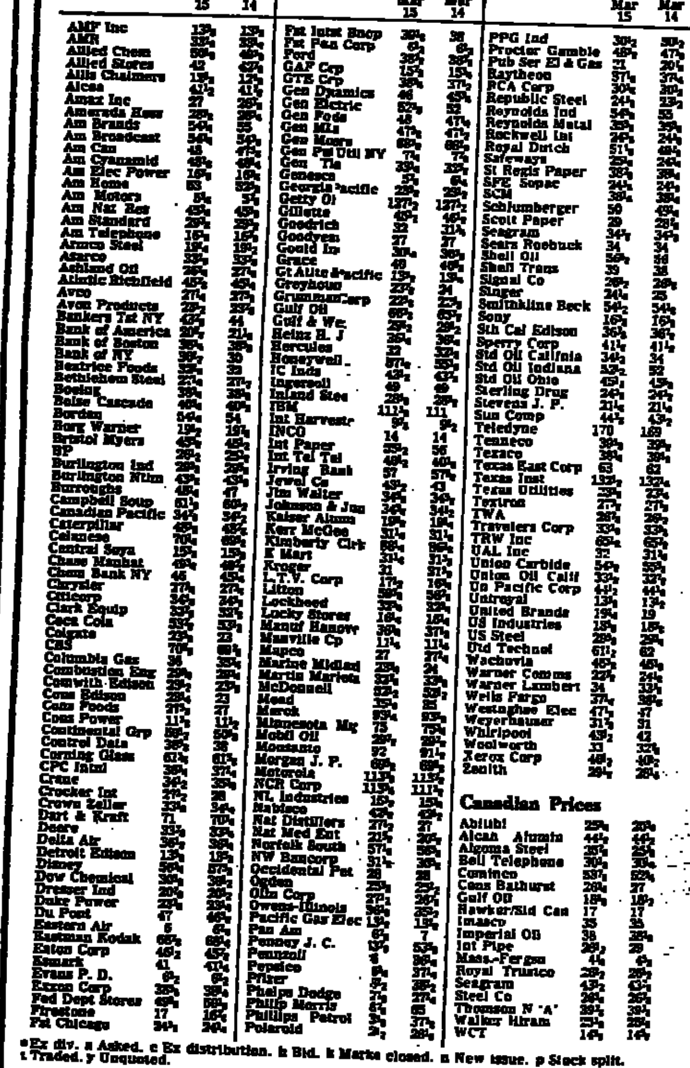
The Dow Jones industrial average was up 19.47 point to 1186.87.

Advances were more than eight to one ahead of declines and trading was heavy.

International Business Machines rose 2½ to 113⅞; **General Electric** was up 1⅜ at 54; **Exxon** was up ⅛ at 38¾; **Burroughs** was up ¾ at 49¼; **American Express** was up 1 at 30¼; NCR was up 1½ to 115¼ and **Superior Oil** rose 1⅛ to 38⅞.

Gulf Corporation at 70⅛ was up 3¾; **Motorola** at 117½ was up 3⅜; **Sperry** at 31¾ was up 1⅛; **Capital Cities** at 41 was up 2⅛; **Eastman Kodak** at 69¾ was up ¾; **Northwest Airlines** at 39⅞ was up 1⅛; **Union Carbide** 55⅛ up ¾; and **Merrill Lynch** was up ¾ at 26⅞.

Mr Edward G. Webb jr, senior vice-president of Bull & Bear Group, said: "The averages jumped up in early trading. "The overnight sell orders at the major firms were cancelled following news of the budget compromise from Washington late yesterday and the overseas buying orders this morning were very heavy. All the volume is on the upside."



	Mar 15	Mar 14
AMF Inc	13⅜	13⅜
AMR	33¼	33¼
Allied Chem	50⅝	49⅝
Allied Stores	42	42⅞
Allis Chalmers	13⅝	12⅞
Alcoa	41½	41⅛
Amax Inc	27	26⅝
Amerada Hess	28½	28¼
Am Brands	54¼	55
Am Broadcast	54⅜	54½
Am Can	48	47⅝
Am Cyanamid	48⅝	48¼
Am Elec Power	16⅝	16⅛
Am Home	53	52½
Am Motors	8⅛	8
Am Nat Res	45¼	45⅜
Am Standard	29⅝	29⅛
Am Telephone	16⅛	16⅜
Armco Steel	19¼	19½
Asarco	33⅝	33⅝
Ashland Oil	28⅜	27⅛
Atlantic Richfield	45⅝	45¼
Avco	27¼	27⅜
Avon Products	23½	23⅝
Bankers Tst NY	43⅝	44
Bank of America	20⅝	21⅛
Bank of Boston	38⅝	38⅝
Bank of NY	30⅞	30
Beatrice Foods	32⅝	32
Bethlehem Steel	27¼	27⅞
Boeing	39⅜	38⅝
Boise Cascade	40⅛	40⅝
Borden	54⅛	54
Borg Warner	19½	19⅜
Bristol Myers	45⅝	45½
BP	28½	28⅞
Burlington Ind	28⅝	28⅝
Burlington Nthn	43⅝	43⅛
Burroughs	48¼	47
Campbell Soup	61⅝	60½
Canadian Pacific	34⅝	34½
Caterpillar	45⅞	45⅞
Celanese	70¼	69½
Central Soya	15⅝	15⅝
Chase Manhat	49⅞	48⅝
Chem Bank NY	46	45⅝
Chrysler	27¼	27⅜
Citicorp	34⅜	34⅜
Clark Equip	33⅜	32⅞
Coca Cola	53⅞	53½
Colgate	23⅝	23
CBS	70⅝	69¾
Columbia Gas	36	35⅜
Combustion Eng	29⅝	28⅞
Comwith Edison	29½	29⅝
Cons Edison	23¼	23
Cons Foods	27⅜	27
Cons Power	11⅝	11½
Continental Grp	50⅞	50⅝
Control Data	38⅝	38
Corning Glass	61⅝	61⅜
CPC Intnl	38¼	37¼
Crane	34½	35⅜
Crocker Inc	27½	28
Crown Zeller	33⅛	34⅛
Dart & Kraft	71	70¼
Deere	33⅜	33⅝
Delta Air	36½	36⅝
Detroit Edison	13⅝	13⅝
Disney	56⅛	57⅝
Dow Chemical	30⅜	30½
Dresser Ind	20⅝	20½
Duke Power	29⅝	29¾
Du Pont	47	46⅝
Eastern Air	6	6⅛
Eastman Kodak	69⅝	69¼
Eaton Corp	46½	45⅞
Esmark	41	41¼
Evans P. D.	6½	6½
Exxon Corp	38⅝	38¼
Fed Dept Stores	69⅝	68⅝
Firestone	17	16⅞
Fst Chicago	24½	24¼

	Mar 15	Mar 14
Fst Intst Bncp	38⅝	38
Fst Pen Corp	6½	6½
Ford	38⅝	38⅝
GAF Cp	15⅝	15⅛
GTE Crp	38⅝	37½
Gen Dynamics	46	45⅝
Gen Electric	52⅞	52
Gen Fods	48	47⅜
Gen Mls	47⅝	47½
Gen Motors	69⅝	68⅝
Gen Pub Util NY	7¾	7¾
Gen Tle	35¼	35⅞
Genesco	5⅞	6¼
Georgia Pacific	23⅝	23½
Getty Oil	127½	127½
Gillette	46⅞	46⅞
Goodrich	32	31⅛
Goodyear	27	27
Gould Inc	30⅛	30⅝
Grace	40	40⅝
Gt Atlte & Pacific	13⅜	13⅛
Greyhound	23⅝	24
Grumman Corp	22⅝	22⅛
Gulf Oil	66⅞	65⅞
Gulf & We	29½	29½
Heinz H. J	36¼	36¼
Hercules	32	32⅛
Honeywell	57⅛	55⅞
IC Inds	42½	42⅛
Ingersoll	49	49
Inland Stee	28⅝	28⅞
IBM	111⅝	111
Int Harvestr	9⅝	9½
INCO	14	14
Int Paper	55½	56
Int Tel Tel	40½	40⅛
Irving Bank	37	37⅞
Jewel Co	43½	43
Jim Walter	34⅝	34⅞
Johnson & Jnn	34⅝	34½
Kaiser Alumn	19⅝	18⅛
Kerr McGee	31⅛	31⅛
Kimberly Clrk	88¼	86⅝
K Mart	31⅛	31⅞
Kroger	31	31⅞
L.T.V. Corp	17½	16⅝
Litton	58⅝	58⅝
Lockheed	33⅝	32⅛
Lucky Stores	16¼	16¼
Manuf Hanovr	36⅝	37⅛
Manville Cp	11⅛	11⅛
Mapco	27	27¼
Marine Midlnd	23⅝	24
Martin Marieta	33⅝	33⅝
McDonnell	52½	50⅞
Mead	35⅛	35
Merck	93¼	93⅝
Minnesota Mg	75	75¼
Mobil Oil	29⅞	29⅝
Monsanto	92	91⅛
Morgan J. P.	69⅝	69⅝
Motorola	113⅝	113⅝
NCR Corp	113⅝	111⅞
NL Industries	15⅝	15⅛
Nabisco	42⅝	42⅞
Nat Distillers	27½	27
Nat Med Ent	21⅝	20⅝
Norfolk South	57⅛	56⅝
NW Bancorp	31⅛	30⅝
Occidental Pet	28	28
Ogden	25⅛	25½
Olin Corp	27½	26⅞
Owens-Illinois	36⅝	35½
Pacific Gas Elec	13⅝	13⅛
Pan Am	6⅞	7
Penney J. C.	53⅝	53⅝
Pennzoil	36	36⅛
Pepsico	37¼	37¼
Pfizer	35½	35½
Phelps Dodge	27⅜	27¼
Philip Morris	65⅜	65
Phillips Petrol	37⅜	37⅞
Polaroid	28½	28⅛

	Mar 15	Mar 14
PPG Ind	30½	30½
Procter Gamble	48⅞	47⅝
Pub Ser El & Gas	21	20⅝
Raytheon	37⅛	37¼
RCA Corp	30⅝	30½
Republic Steel	24⅛	23½
Reynolds Ind	54⅝	55
Reynolds Metal	35⅝	35⅜
Rockwell Int	24⅝	24⅛
Royal Dutch	51⅛	49⅝
Safeways	25⅛	24⅝
St Regis Paper	38⅝	38¼
SFE Sopac	24⅛	24½
SCM	38¼	38¼
Schlumberger	50	49⅝
Scott Paper	29	28⅝
Seagram	34⅞	34⅞
Sears Roebuck	34	34
Shell Oil	56⅞	56
Shell Trans	39	38
Signal Co	28½	28⅞
Singer	24⅛	25
Smithkline Beck	54½	54⅛
Sony	16⅝	16⅛
Sth Cal Edison	36⅝	36⅞
Sperry Corp	41⅛	41½
Std Oil California	34½	34
Std Oil Indiana	52½	52
Std Oil Ohio	45⅞	45⅝
Sterling Drug	24⅝	24⅞
Stevens J. P.	21⅛	21⅛
Sun Comp	44½	43½
Teledyne	170	169
Tenneco	38⅝	39⅛
Texaco	38¼	38⅛
Texas East Corp	63	62
Texas Inst	132½	132¼
Texas Utilities	23⅝	23⅝
Textron	27⅞	27⅝
TWA	28⅝	28½
Travelers Corp	33⅝	33⅝
TRW Inc	65⅛	65⅝
UAL Inc	32	31⅛
Union Carbide	54⅞	55⅝
Union Oil Calif	33⅞	32⅞
Un Pacific Corp	44½	44⅛
Uniroyal	13⅝	13⅞
United Brands	19⅛	19
US Industries	18⅝	18⅝
US Steel	29⅝	29⅝
Utd Technol	61½	62
Wachovia	48⅝	48⅝
Warner Comms	22⅝	24⅛
Warner Lambert	34	33⅝
Wells Fargo	37⅛	38⅝
Westnghse Elec	47⅛	47
Weyerhaeuser	31⅝	31
Whirlpool	43½	42
Woolworth	33	32⅝
Xerox Corp	40½	40½
Zenith	28⅞	28⅛

Canadian Prices

	Mar 15	Mar 14
Abitibi	25⅝	26⅝
Alcan Alumin	44½	44½
Algoma Steel	25⅝	25⅝
Bell Telephone	30⅛	30⅛
Cominco	53⅞	52⅝
Cons Bathurst	26⅛	27
Gulf Oil	18⅝	18½
Hawker/Sid Can	17	17
Imasco	35	35
Imperial Oil	38	38⅛
Int Pipe	28½	29
Mass-Fergsn	4⅛	4⅛
Royal Trustco	28½	28½
Seagram	43½	43⅝
Steel Co	26⅛	26⅝
Thomson N 'A'	39⅝	39⅛
Walker Hiram	29⅛	28⅝
WCT	14⅝	14⅝

*Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

هكذا من الأصل

GIT and Cardinal to merge

Cardinal Investment Trust and General Investors and Trustees have agreed in principle to merge, and to concentrate on the Pacific basin – including the west coast of North America.

Directors of the two trusts, who announced the merger talks on December 20, will recommend that the new organization be named F and C Pacific Investment Trust. There will also be appropriate board and management changes.

Under the scheme, which will involve the acquisition of Cardinal by GIT, the equity shareholders of each company will receive a capital payment in cash representing about 10 per cent of the audited NAV of their respective company at January 31.

Cardinal, as a subsidiary of General, will be wound up and its net assets transferred upon liquidation to General.

In brief

● **RIO TINTO-ZINC/CRA (Argylle):** CRA (Argylle) Finance and a syndicate of international and Australian banks have signed in Singapore an agreement for a $235m (£156m) limited recourse financing.

● **SPRING RAM CORP:** Kitchen production division Ram H. I., has completed a £1.3m freehold multi-purpose 40,000 sq ft factory on part of its 33-acre site in Yorkshire.

● **HANGER/T COWIE:** In the formal Cowie offer document sent to shareholders yesterday, Hanger board said that the audit for the year to December 31, 1983 had not yet been completed, but the directors expect that the results for the year will show pretax profits of approximately £180,000 for the continuing operations of the Hanger Group.

● **CHURCHILL ENERGY:** Vickers da Costs is placing 4 million shares of Churchill with its clients. Shares will be sold at 20 cents each raising $A820,000 (£515,000).

● **AIRSPRUNG GROUP:** Results for 12 months to December 31, 1983. Second interim 2.2p making 4.6p (4.3p). Turnover 17,907,888 (15,016,541). Trading profit 1,040,247 (512,630). Interest 34,539 (105,802). Share of profit of association company 25,771 (19,202). Pretax profit 1,031,479 (426,030).

● **FORMDESIGN:** Arrangements have been completed for a placing by stockbrokers, Albert E Sharp, of 25 per cent of the ordinary share cap of Formdesgin, based in Dudley, West Midlands. Application has been made to the Stock Wxchange council for permission to deal in the company's shares on the USM.

● **JOHN LEWIS PARTNERSHIP:** The company bought in the market on March 15 for cancellation 380,000 of its 5 per cent cum pref stock at a price of 51p per £1 stock unit.

● **TEXAS EASTERN CORN:** Agreements have been finalized for the purchase of certain interests in exploration and production lincenses on six blocks in the Netherlands' sector of the North Sea from Sulpctro, a Canadian company.

● **LINK HOUSE PUBLICATIONS:** Mr G C Burt, a director of the company, has sold 40,000 ordinary making his interest 13.24 per cent. Mrs M A Bore, wife of a director of the company has sold 30,000 ordinary in the company, making her interest 7.55 per cent. Mrs E J Allerfeldt has sold 50,000 ordinary in the company, making her interest under 8.9 per cent.

● **HALL ENGINEERING HLDGS:** Final 4.2p making 7.61p (same). Turnover year to December 31, 1983, figs in £000 – 109,928 (107,572). Op pfts 2,710 (3,887). Pretax pft 5,603 (5,422).

● **GEORGE OLIVER (FOOTWEAR):** Final 5.55p mkg 7p (6p). Turnover for 1983, figs in £000 – 36,775 (31,758). Tdg pft 2,212 (1,335). Op inc 517 (622). Interest 642 (529. Pretax pft 2,087 (1,428).

● **SHARE STAKES:** Stock conversion inv tst – on March 9, equity tst sold 100,000 ord in co and now holds 11,867,500 ord (22.67 per cent).

● **WILLIAMS HLDS:** Figs in £000. Turnover 26,892 (5,606) for 1983. Pretax loss 76 (315 loss). Minorities 66 (nil). Mkg loss 142 (315 loss).

Mills profit growth rate shows big drop

By Jonathan Clare

The enormous growth in profits at Mills & Allen International last year on the back of its acquisition programme has tailed off sharply in the first half of the present year.

The financial services, advertising and insurance group which was formed out of the remains of the old JH Vavasseur Group in 1977, yesterday turned in profits of £9.4m against £8.6m.

Mr Clive Hollick, the managing director, said the slow-down in growth was largely "the quiet market on the money broking side". But he added that it still made a "respectable" contribution and that the business was now weighted to the second half.

The traditional outdoor advertising interests are still struggling in the wake of the break-up of the poster cartel in 1982.

The increase in profits came mainly from the securities interests, but the motor insurance broking side is still being expanded fast.

Including the recently anouced acquision of Glen Insurance Brokers, Mills now has 110 branches. It does business worth £30m in the £1,200m brokerage market – equivalent to 3 per cent – but has a target of £100m, which would make it the biggest in the field.

Mills had also just announced a stake of nearly 8 per cent in Hogg Robinson, which has big Lloyd's interests, to stiffen its wholesale insurance business.

The slower rate of growth in the first half means analysts have trimmed back their full year expectations, and City forecasts are for between £21m and £22m against last time's £19.1m.

Their interim dividend has been maintained at 4p. The shares slipped 25p to 340p on the results.

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

Assurance

Midnight deadline creates confusion

An attempt by the Inland Revenue to clarify the position over the Budget Day midnight deadline for the ending of life assurance premium relief has led to even more confusion.

Life offices kept their doors open until 12 o'clock in the belief that if proposal forms could be underwritten before midnight then the policies would qualify for tax relief.

But an Inland Revenue statement issued two days after the Budget said: "The question of when an insurance is made is a matter of contract law and the Inland Revenue's understanding is that an insurance is not legally made until the insurer has accepted an offer from an individual and notified him or her to that effect, whether by letter of acceptance or the formal issue of a policy.

"Provided that such notification was posted before midnight on March 13, the contract in question will normally be regarded as made before the deadline and life assurance premium relief will therefore be available."

Life offices were intially horrified by this strict interpretation of the law.

"We did not have time to issue a letter of acceptance. We told people in person or over the telephone," said Mr Ken Wills, marketing director of Equitable Life, which wrote 2,000 policies on Budget Day. "We insisted on a formal proposal in a form which we could underwrite. The client pays his money and then the contract is in force. If he accepts and then posts the money, we regarded that as satisfactory."

In spite of the reference to a letter or the formal issue of a policy before the deadline in the official guidance given out by the Revenue, a spokesman said that "verbal clarification would suffice".

But clearly some life offices are going beyond this and have been reassuring clients that although there was no time for any communication over a policy proposal received at the last moment, it would still qualify for premium relief.

The muddle over the deadline has made some life insurance men angry that precise guidance was not available immediately, to help them organise the inevitable rush for policies in the time between the Chancellor's speech and the midnight deadline.

The Revenue has heard allegations that some life offices have been backdating policies, but no spot checks have been made.

If it comes to the crunch, it is difficult to see how a life office could prove that it told a client before the deadline that his policy had been accepted, and even proof of posting date would be destroyed when the policyholder threw the envelope into the wastepaper bin.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	8½%
Barclays	8¾%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10¼%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	8¼%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	8½%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.
* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 5¾%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¼%; £50,000 and over, 7¼%

Building societies

Rebel solicitor makes new bid to join board of Nationwide

Britain's third largest building society, Nationwide, is coming under fire again from the Devon solicitor Mr Christopher Punt.

He has been a thorn in the side of the society for three years, since he began campaigning for more democracy within building societies.

Mr Punt has tabled three prickly resolutions to be considered at the Nationwide's annual meeting next Friday.

He is calling on members to censure the society after wives of some board members had an expenses-paid trip to a meeting of the International Union of Building Societies in Melbourne.

The directors defend the decision to send wives to Australia. "They participate in the many business and associated functions which form part of the Congress programme and take an active part in the civic and governmental functions which are an essential feature", the society says in a formal reply.

"It would be quite exceptional if British building societies were not represented in this way."

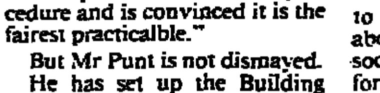
Mr Punt's next jibe concerns the setting up of a consultation procedure to "revive the ethos of mutuality" of the society.

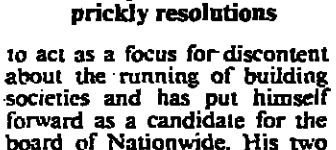
But again, the Nationwide rejects his view. "A formal means of consultation between some three million members would be cubersome and ineffecive," says the society.

And lastly, Mr Punt calls upon Nationwide to talk to the Electoral Reform Society about setting up an independant voting on resolutions.

Again, the Society rejects this view: "The Board has recently carefully reviewed the procedure and is convinced it is the fairest practicalble."

But Mr Punt is not dismayed. He has set up the Building Societies Members' Association to act as a focus for discontent about the running of building societies and has put himself forward as a candidate for the board of Nationwide. His two past unsuccessful attempts have not dampened his spirits.





Christopher Punt: three prickly resolutions

"We are slow but steady," he said. "I'm determined to keep up the pressure."

This year there are five vacancies and five directors whose names are marked with an asterisk on the ballot paper, showing they are up for re-election. Mr Punt, Mr Paul Battley and Miss Sheila Heywood make up the trio of fringe candidates.

Mr Punt lost his fight last year to stop Nationwide showing the "establishment" candidates with an asterisk on the ballot paper.

Last year the three directors seeking re-election polled between 79,000 and 78,000 votes each, while the highest scoring outsider Miss Heywood, polled 35 000 and Mr Punt just 30,000.

Vivien Goldsmith

Unit trusts

Budget boost buys more for less

Unit trust groups were busy adjusting the differences between their buying and selling prices this week to take account of the Chancellor's decision to halve stamp duty on equity deals to 1 per cent.

Most unit trust spreads came down from 7 to 6 per cent and the result is that it costs you less to buy units, and you get more for your money when selling.

Barclays Unicorn, for example, has calculated kthat before Budget changes the offer price of their trust was 87.5p and the bid price 81.4p. Without the Budget changes, and adjusting for the rise in stock market values last week, these would have 88.2p and 82.1p but with stamp duty cut these units were offered at 87.4p and bid for at 82.2p.

Last year was a record year for the unit trust industry with money pouring into the funds which were turning in impressive performances. For the first two months of this year, though, performances have been much more pedestrian. More than 170 trusts lost money for their unit holders since the end of 1983, and another 44 managed only to break even. Biggest losers were those licked to the American economy.

There are now post-budget signs that the unit trust industry might start a bigger push into the life assurance market since the 15 per cent tax relief on life policies was abolished by Mr Lawson.

Two trust groups admitted that new savings packages were under consideration, but incentive schemes which might include a free life policy are being regarded apprehensively.

As one unit manager said: "Straight life cover is really so cheap and when putting a package together there is always an element to cover management time, which puts up the price. Savers would get a better deal by taking some form of straight unit trust savings scheme and taking out a term life policy separately."

In fact the industry points out that the normal unit trust savings schemes have been largely under-played until now anyway.

The reason is that, compared with a unit-linked life assurance policy, the commission to be earned from selling a straight savings plan has been small.

It would take an insurance broker very little time to decide whether to talk clients into a straight saving plan, where he would earn just 3 per cent commission, or recommend a life-linked policy where the middle man would earn perhaps 30 per cent of the first year's premium, up front in commission.

Abolition of tax relief on life policies is likely to make a straightforward unit trust savings scheme much more attractive to certain types of saver anyway.

Henderson Unit Trust Management Group produced some rough rule-of-thumb figures based on a basic rate taxpaying saver, aged 48 next birthday, and prepared to put away £50 a month under a maximum investment plan. Such a plan with tax relief would have yielded £9,575 after 10 years. Without tax relief it will produce £8,139, after the same period. The straightforward unit trust plan would give a sum of £9,469 after 10 years.

Henderson points out that higher rate taxpayers putting money in high yielding funds would be much better off with a maximum investment plan.

The difference between a maximum investment plan with and without relief on Henderson's figures works out at exactly 15 per cent. However, unit trust groups are pointing out that the tax cut does not necessarily mean that most savers are worse off by this amount.

A proportion of what savers thought they were getting was being used to cover the life companies management charges and payments to insurance brokers and other intermediaries for introducing the business. This was all loaded on to the premium being charged to the client.

Philip Robinson

مكبر من الأصل

FAMILY MONEY

Holiday homes

Some good news for owners

Owners of holiday homes which are let out during the summer have been given a Budget boost. Income from furnished holiday accommodation will be treated as earned rather than as investment income and the new relief will be applied retrospectively from April 6, 1982.

The change does not go as far as the tourist industry wanted. It would have preferred holiday letting to be treated as a trade, which would have provided additional benefits. As the Chancellor has also abolished the investment income surcharge, the relief loses some of its gloss.

However, relief from the investment income surcharge will be available both for the tax year 1982-83 and 1983-84.

There is also good news on the capital gains tax front. Previously, capital gains on the disposal of holiday letting property had not been eligible for rollover relief on the replacement of business assets, or for retirement relief where the taxpayer is aged 60 or over.

Capital gains on the disposal of holiday letting property will qualify for retirement relief from April 6, 1982. For both individuals and companies, capital gains on the disposal of the property will also be eligible for rollover relief if the replacement assets are acquired on or after that date. Retirement relief has also been improved in the Budget – with exemption rising from the first £50,000 to the first £100,000, with effect from April 5, 1983, for the over 65s.

For the property to qualify for the new reliefs it must meet certain conditions. The property must be let on a commercial basis with a view to profit and the tenant must be entitled to the use of the furniture.

There are also conditions relating to the letting period for which the accommodation is available. During the holiday season, which the Inland Revenue considers to be April to October, the property must be available for at least 180 days. In that period it must be actually let for 90 days, but not more than 30 days continuously to the same tenant.

If only part of the accommodation qualifies, only the appropriate proportion of the income will be treated as earned.

Ian Griffiths

Canadian Pacific

Royal Bank of Canada is launching its Far East & Pacific Fund which will be run from Guernsey. It will be a dollar denominated fund and the investment policy will aim for long-term capital growth.

"RBC will go for companies in the Pacific Basin, particularly Japan but including Australia, Hongkong, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines. It may also invest in countries bordering the Pacific Ocean, such as the United States and Canada, and in companies which derive the greater part of their earnings from business in the Pacific Basin.

Mr Tim Betley, managing director of Royal Bank of Canada (Channel Islands), said: "The Japanese economy is currently established in an exciting growth phase and together with other Far Eastern economies with their relatively cheap hard working labour forces, high productivity, and free market oriented political structures, we feel ideally placed to benefit from the current trends in the world economic cycle."

Britannia reacts

Britannia has been quick to react to the 1 per cent cut in Stamp Duty. It has reduced the spread between bid and offer price on its unit trusts, by a full 1 per cent, in most cases, to take account of the reduction in Stamp Duty.

Tax spotlight

A new Tax and Investment Exhibition is being held at the Wembley Conference Centre, London, in December 6 and 7. The organizers expect a wide range of exhibitors, including stockbrokers, unit trusts, investment advisers, life assurance companies, brokers, banks, pension advisers and the like. Free tickets will be distributed to thousands of personal investors, professional intermediaries and members of the financial community. Details from Tax and Investment Exhibition, Grosvenor House, 20 London Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1AY.

Depressed pensions

Over the last four years the average pension fund has earned a return nearly 13 per cent a year in excess of price inflation. Real returns of this magnitude are unlikely to be sustainable and expected real returns of perhaps 3 to 5 per cent against retail prices will be earned in the long run, the stockbroker Phillips & Drew says in the latest edition of their *Pension Fund Indicators*.

In spite of their good year in 1982, gilts have been the most disappointing investment sector over the last 20 years, and cash has been a better investment than gilts over this period. British equities have been better still, producing a return 4 per cent ahead of retail price inflation.



Bonus offer

Sun Life Assurance is offering a bonus to those who buy their unit linked, self-employed pension contracts. If you pay a minimum of £1,500 a year or more for a period of not less than 15 years, you will be offered a 4 per cent addition to the normal unit allocation rates of Sun Life's unit-linked Personal Pension Plan.

Under this special offer, which closes on April 5, the new allocation rates will therefore be 105 per cent for annual premiums and 102 per cent for monthly premiums.

Trusty move

An option to put your personal contributions into three quoted investment trusts is the latest addition to Scottish Equitable's Reflex Pension Plan for the self-employed.

The three investment tie-ups are with Edinburgh Investment Trust, which is independently managed, Edinburgh American Assets Trust, managed by Ivory & Sime, and Baillie Gifford's Japan Trust.

The appeal of investment trusts as an investment vehicle is the current discount on asset values of around 20 per cent and the gearing factor. Mr David Berridge, General Manager of Scottish Equitable, said: "Our own funds operate with concentrated portfolios and the investment trusts have different characteristics with a greater spread of investments and with more emphasis on smaller companies – particularly in Edinburgh American and Baillie Gifford Japan.

"We are keen to expand our service and enhance the choice for customers, and we are fortunate to be able to offer a link with these three outstanding investment trusts".

Minimum investment is £1,000 on the single premium policies, and £200 a year with the regular premium version.

Conference date

"Are consumers getting a fair deal from the professionals?" will be one of the talking points at this year's Consumer Congress. Solicitors, surveyors and opticians – and the rules of their professional bodies – will be under the scrutiny of the consumer watchdogs. Subjects discussed will include advertising. Since opticians are banned from advertising, the public may not realize that the same spectacles could be bought from other opticians at a cheaper price.

Among other things, delegates will discuss whether complaints against professionals are best handled by the profession or some independent means, for instance, an Ombudsman.

The 1984 Consumer will take place at Liverpool University on March 30, 31 and April 1. Details available from: Miss Wendy Toms, 01-222-9501 (Day); 0580-80-312 (Eve).

School fees advice

The removal of tax relief from life assurance policies affects school fee plans funded out of income and with greater impact on those plans aimed at funding fees in the earlier years – that is, those starting to pay fees four to five years after the start of the plan.

C Howard & Partners Ltd. (01 734 8631), which specializes in school fees, advises parents that it is now more important than ever to start funding their children's school fees as far in advance as possible.

New income funds

Two new income funds have been launched by Royal London – a Gilt Income Fund, and a High Income Trust. "We believe that the addition of these two new trusts to our existing range of Capital Accumulator, Special Situations, American Growth, and Income and Growth trusts will provide us with an extremely competitive range of trusts designed to meet most investment requirements." says Mr Roger Harwood, Unit Trust manager of Royal London.

The initial estimated gross yield on the Gilt Income Fund will be 10.25 per cent and 8.5 per cent on the High Income Trust.

Emergency aid

Watch out for the emergency card from the Paddington Building Society which will give savers penalty-free withdrawals to cover financial emergencies. The details are expected at the end of the month.

Tax planning book

For those in the process of year end tax planning, Oyez Longman has recently published the second edition of *Year End and Accounting Period Tax Planning* by N J Ince and G J R Bell, price £11.55. This comprehensive book covers such issues as personal taxation, intellectual property, foreign property, trusts, land and business taxation.

Interest rates

New-look lending structure likely

The 1 per cent cut in building society mortgage rates is good news for borrowers, but the accompanying reduction in savings rates is viewed with resignation by savers, who had been hoping for something a little less than the full 1 per cent off investment rate.

A building society mortgage rate of 10.25 per cent brings the societies roughly into line with rates being charged by the banks. But because of differences in the way interest chages are calculated, the rate quoted by the banks is higher than the building society rate, though repayments are broadly similar.

The average building society borrower with a £25,000 loan over 25 years will see monthly repayments, not or mortgage interest tax relief, drop from £193.08 to £181.25, a saving of nearly £12 a month.

Home loan queues have now all but disappeared and it is only a matter of time before the building societies start to review their differential loan structure, the system of charging more for larger than average loans and for endowment mortgages.

MR Roy Gravestock, of the Halifax Building Society, commented: Differential mortgage rates will have to be reviewed in the light of what is happening in the mortgage market. Demand at the branches is still high but we are able to meet it.

The end of tax relief on endowment-linked home loans has meant that endowment mortgages have lost their competitive edge over repayment loans. Before the Budget, a low-cost endowment worked out cheaper than a straight repayment mortgage.

But the insurance industry is not going to just shrug its shoulders and give up the lucrative mortgage business. Their actuaries are already working on the sums and the building societies – hungry for the commission – are going to be as keen as any life company to ensure that the endowment-linked business remains competitive.

The companies have the option of increasing the monthly endowment premiums to take account of the lost tax relief, or juggling the benefits, clearly a much more attractive option.

The societies are as anxious as the insurers to keep this business so they will certainly be looking a ways of keeping costs down – such as reducing the interest rate differential on endowment loans or being prepared to accept slightly less security from the insurance policy link.

But if it has been a good news for borrowers, it has been a gloomy week for saver, with the banks cutting base rates by 0.5 per cent and shaving 0.25 per cent off the already miserable return of 5.5 for seven-day deposit accounts.

This brings the return down to 5.25 per cent – and that is taxable.

Worse, if the Chancellor has his way, from April of next year, the banks will be deducting tax at source under the composite rate scheme which the building societies already operate. Under this system, non-taxpayers would not be able to reclaim this tax, and would therfore be forced into the arms of National Savings Bank as the only institution allowed to pay interest gross.

The banks do not like this prospect at all – nor do the building societies. The common sense solution would be for both banks and building societies to deduct tax at the basic rate of 30 per cent, but allow it to be reclaimed by non-taxpayers.

Meanwhile, most building societies have decided to maintain the 1 per cent differential on "extra interest" accounts, so most savers will still be able to enjoy a return of 7.25 net of basic rate tax.

NSB Investment Account remains the best home for non-taxpayers' money.

Monthly net repayments on a £25,000 Mortgage over 25 years

Lender	Monthly repayments (constant) £	Monthly repayments (increasing) £	Quoted interest rate %
Building society	181.25	178.33	10.25
Barclays	187.25	175.25	11.00
Midlands	–	175.50	11.25
NatWest	–	178.63	11.00
Lloyds	–	185.25	11.75
TSB*	–	184.50	11.50

*includes life assurance cover.
NatWest, Lloyds, Midland and TSB do not quote mortgage repayments on a constant net repayment basis.

POST BUDGET AFTER-TAX RETURNS FROM FIXED-INTEREST INVESTMENTS

	Non-taxpayer %	30%	40%	50%	60%	75%
Bank 7 Day Deposit*	5.25	3.67	3.15	2.62	2.1	1.51
Building Society Ordinary Account	6.25	6.25	5.3	4.45	3.5	2.2
Building Society Extra Interest Account	7.25	7.25	6.2	5.17	4.1	2.59
NSB Investment Account	11.0	7.7	6.6	5.5	4.4	2.75
Money Fund*	8.75	6.1	5.25	4.37	3.5	2.9
26th Issue National Savings Certificates	8.26	8.26	8.26	8.26	8.26	8.26
Granny Bonds'	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4

*Average rate
'Estimated return January '84 to January '85, including 2.4% bonus

FAMILY MONEY

Life assurance

Where tax relief lingers on

The Chancellor may have axed the 15 per cent life assurance premium relief, but it is still possible for many people to obtain tax relief on life policies – and at much higher rates.

The self-employed and anyone who does not belong to a company pension scheme can buy term assurance (the sort that pays a lump sum if you die within a specified number of years) through what are known as Section 226A policies.

With this type of policy you can get tax relief at your highest rate paid on life assurance premiums, provided the premiums do not exceed 5 per cent of your net relevant earnings. But they are only available to those who are self-employed, or employees who do not belong to a company pension scheme.

The table shows what is on offer. As pure cover-type policies which pay out only if you die, you get a lot of life assurance for a relatively low premium, and the availability of full tax relief on your highest rate paid makes these policies doubly attractive. Equitable Life is one of the leaders in the field and for a premium of only £100 a year (before tax relief) you can buy 20-year cover up to retirement age of 65 of over £18.000. If you are a 60 per cent taxpayer, the net cost is only £40.

The benefits can be paid to any individual free of capital transfer tax. These policies have been available for some time but only those self-employed who took the trouble to find out about their existence bought them. Term insurance generally has not been actively sold by life assurance salesmen, though this is likely to change with the removal of life assurance premium relief.

If you are thinking of buying this type of life cover, it is not necessary for you to take out your S226A policy with the company with which you have your self-employed pension plan – but some companies will offer a discount if you do. Many companies offer non-smoker discounts too.

If you are not eligible for an S226A type policy, it will still pay you to buy your term, or convertible term, assurance now. This has generally been sold as a loss leader by most insurance companies and will be one of the candidates for a rise in price as soon as the insurance companies get round to adjusting their rates.

Companies quoting competitive rates for both term and convertible term policies include Equitable Life, London Life, Clerical Medical and General, Commercial Union, Scottish Mutual and Sun Alliance.

You ought to be able to get as much as £100,000 worth of 15-year cover for about £120 a year if you are under 30 (and that is without anytax relief at all). The 45-year-old willbe charged around £600 a year for the same cover, so it pays to buy when you are young. If you are 55 the same cover will cost as much as £1,800 a year.

One of the problems with all forms of cover-type policies is that what seems an adequate sum assured when you start can be virtually useless after 10 years of inflation. Convertible, increasable, renewable term assurance solves this problem – but it is more expensive.

If you want 15-year cover, there are only five companies in the market – London Life, Medical Sickness, Permanent Insurance, Premium Life and Scottish Equitable. At ages 25 to 30, £100,000 worth of cover for 15 years will cost around £140 to £160 a year.

Way out in front is London Life's policy which is not only the cheapest at all ages, but gives the policy holder the option of doubling his cover every three or five years. The others all restrict the option to increase the cover to the rate of inflation, or a 10 to 25 per cent rise in the sum assured.

● **Those who rushed to get their life assurance with tax relief attached before the Chancellor shut the stable door, might be disappointed. The Inland Revenue has said that in its view these contracts will not be eligible for the 15 per cent life assurance relief unless the insurance company posted the notice of acceptance of the cover before midnight on March 13 – Budget Day.**

Level term assurance written under section 226A – as a separate policy
Sums assured for a gross annual premium of £100 (inclusive of policy fee)

Company	Retirement Age 65 20 year term £	10 year term £
Abbey	12,392	7,174
Australian Mutual Provident	12,949	7,317
Avon	12,430	6,844
Canada Life (a)	12,349	7,395
Cannon	11,842	6,365
Canterbury Life (i)	–	–
City of Westminster	11,634	6,729
Clerical Medical	16,152	8,592
Colonial Mutual (b)	14,000	7,386
Commercial Union (c)	9,385	4,974
	(17,045)*	(8,558)*
Confederation Life	11,658	6,541
Cornhill	12,854	6,771
Crusader	16,270*	8,219
Eagle Star	12,686	7,142
Ecclesiastical	13,235	7,500
Economic	10,970	5,821
	(17,117)*	(9,126)*
Equitable	18,411	10,021
Equity & Law (d)	12,047	6,605
FS Assurance	11,519	6,570
Friends' Provident (f)	10,740	5,532
	16,791*	8,427*
Gresham Life	14,583	8,533
Guardian	9,815	5,308
	(13,900)*	(7,520)*
Hill Samuel	13,562	7,910
Irish Life	12,917	6,846
Legal & General (c)	14,931	7,758
Life Association of Scotland	14,729	8,275
Lloyds Life	11,325	6,242
London Life	17,735	9,812
London & Manchester	11,594	6,854
ManuLife	17,892	9,706
M&G	13,377	7,779
Merchant Investors	12,315	7,117
MGM Assurance	13,472	7,560
National Employers Life	–	–
National Farmers Union	12,430	6,844
National Mutual	11,147	6,534
National Mutual of Australia	12,506	6,262
National Provident	15,585	8,359
Norwich Union	13,433	7,377
Pearl	11,028	6,296
Phoenix	(15,288)*	(8,301)*
Pioneer Mutual	–	–
Property Growth	12,326	7,070
Providence Capitol (g)	12,271	6,641
Provident Life	10,797	6,107
Provident Mutual	13,496	7,230
Provincial Life	11,957	6,811
Prudential	13,200	7,435
Royal Life	12,180	6,960
Royal London	11,111	6,464
Schroder Life	16,199	8,631
Scottish Amicable	14,394	7,422
Scottish Equitable	12,465	6,795
Scottish Life	12,755	7,236
Scottish Mutual	16,346	7,328
Scottish Provident	13,235	7,200
Scottish Widows	12,133	6,791
Sentinel	14,193	7,808
Skandia Life (h)	12,131	6,348
Stalwart	12,453	7,375
Standard Life	12,465	7,237
St George	11,320	6,410
Sun Alliance	14,682	7,575
Sun Life	11,463	6,309
Time	14,064	7,849
Transinternational	(14,285)*	(8,051)*
Trident	12,180	7,067
UK Provident	14,171	7,471
Windsor Life	15,857	7,287
Yorkshire General	16,378	8,586
Zurich Life	(18,125)	(9,165)

*Non-smokers rates. Whereknown non-smoker rates are in brackets.
(a) Minimum sumassured £10,000 and minimum premium £100 p.a. excluding policy fee.
(b) Policy sold in units of £1,000 sum assured.
(c) Illustration purposes only. Minimum sum assured £25,000.
(d) Normal minimum sum assured £10,000 and £5,000 for increments thereafter.
(f) Illustration purposes only. Minimum sum assured £10,000.
(g) Minimum premium £150 p.a. if no S226 plan already in force.
(h) Minimum premium £150 p.a.
(i) Figures quoted on request.
Best buys in bold.
Source: Planned Savings Magazine.

FAMILY MONEY edited by Lorna Bourke

Personal allowances

Elderly get that last-in-line feeling about Chancellor's generosity

The elderly are up in arms at what they consider the Chancellor's meanness in not increasing their personal tax allowances by the same amount as basic personal reliefs.

The rises were more than 12 per cent for single people and married couples, but only 5.5 per cent for those entitled to the higher "age allowance". Up to now, age allowance has been one-third higher than basic personal allowances, but in 1984-85 the differential will drop to only 25 per cent.

Mr David Hobman, director of Age Concern, said: "The Chancellor has done nothing at all in real terms for pensioners. Something should have been done to protect the incomes of those who have worked and saved to provide a little for themselves in retirement".

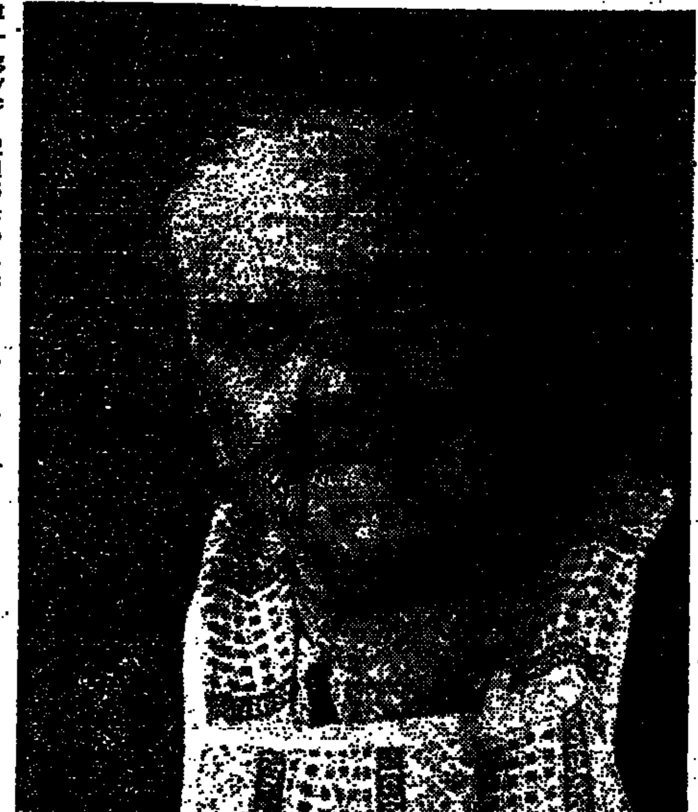
Age allowance is to go up from £2,360 for a single person to £2,490 in 1984/85 and from £3,755 for a married couple to £3,955 in the coming tax year.

Mr Hobman points out that the money spent on reducing stamp duty to 1 per cent for housebuyers, a total of £450m, could have done much to ease the situation of the elderly. It could have provided a 9 per cent increase in old age pensions instead of the 5.5 per cent which pensioners will receive.

Abolishing the earnings rule for pensioners, which catches those whose earnings are more than £65 a week, would have cost the Chancellor only £190m, says Mr Hobman. Allowing this concession to the 225,000 retired women between the ages of 60 and 65 who do not qualify for age allowance, would have cost £20m.

Abolition of the investment income surcharge, a 15 per cent levy on investment income over £7,100 will help 280,000 taxpayers, 160,000 of whom are over the age of 65. But these tend to be the better-off pensioners.

Indeed, those who will benefit most from the removal of the 15 per cent surcharge are members of Lloyd's, most of whom pay higher rate, if not top rate, tax, and have all their earnings from Lloyd's treated as unearned investment income. The removal of the surcharge means that there is now no difference in the tax treatment of earned and unearned income.



For this relief . . . little thanks. The Budget offers few perks to pensioners.

Others with large investment incomes were generally able to avoid both the surcharge and often higher rate taxation by investing for capital growth and realizing gains to provide income.

Top rate taxpayers who had invested in a Business Expansion Scheme involved in farming before the Budget to obtain the benefits of full tax relief on up to £40,000 of income, will still be entitled to their tax relief. but the barrier came down on March 13 and any farming company which has issued shares afer that date will not be considered a "qualifying trade" for the purpose of the BES scheme.

Another tax-efficient investment vehicle for the upper income bracket has been attacked by the Chancellor. *Capital and income bonds* – an arrangement which allowed income to be accumulated in an insurance company scheme and withdrawn tax-free at the end of 10 year – have been jumped on.

These plans were a package of policies, one of which was a "qualifying" life policy, where the proceeds were tax-free on maturity. Single premium "non-qualifying" policies were used to fund the premiums on the endowment.

The Chancellor has said that qualifying policies cannot be issued in conjunction with non-qualifying policies as from August 22, 1983.

High earning Married couples will have to do their sums again and see if it is still worthwhile opting for *separate taxation* (not the same thing as separate assessment.)

The increase in personal allowances and the widening of the higher rate tax bands have raised the 1984/85 threshold above which it will pay to be taxed separately.

Under separate taxation, the husband loses the married man's allowance and both partners receive only the single person's allowance. But the wife's earned income is not lumped with that of her husband, and this separation can result in substantial savings in higher rate tax. A couple who may pay tax at 60 per cent on their joint earning can reduce their marginal tax rate to 30 per cent by electing for separate taxation.

In 1984-85 a married couple will need to have joint earning before deducting personal allowances of at least £23,794 before separate taxation becomes beneficial. In the current tax year the comparable figure is £22,067. Of this the wife's earnings must be at least £6,389 in the coming tax year, £5,682 for 1983/84.

There is a bonus for employees who have approved savings-related *share option schemes*. The maximum contribution is going up from £50 a month to £100. And there are to be further concessions. At the moment, if an employee takes up his option to acquire shares in his employer's company outside the existing approved savings-related schemes, he is generally liable to income tax on the difference between the price at which he could sell the shares and the price he has actually paid for them.

From April 6 there is to be a new category of "approved" share option schemes. An employee who takes up an option under these new schemes will not be liable to income tax, either on exercising the option or ultimate disposal of the shares. He will be liable to capital gains tax only on the profits.

On the capital taxes front, the Chancellor has increased the exemption for individuals for **capital gains tax** from £5,300 in the current tax year to £5,600.

Small businesses have been given a big concession with the raising of the retirement relief threshold for capital gains tax from £50,000 to £100,000. Gains below this level can be taken tax fee provided you are over 65 and you are selling your business or shares in a family trading company of which you are a full time working director.

One tax avoidance target which the Chancellor surprisingly decided to leave alone is "inheritance trusts". These are an extremely artificial device for making gifts in the form of an insurance company bond, wrapped up in a trust package.

The purpose of these schemes is purely to avoid capital transfer tax. However, now the Chancellor has cut the top rate of CTT to 60 per cent from 75 per cent and rescheduled the lifetime rate of CTT so that it is half the death rate all the way up the scale, the incentive to become involved in inheritance trusts has been diminished.

Lorna Bourke

CAPITAL TRANSFER TAX RATES ON LIFETIME AND DEATH TRANSFERS

	1983-84 Lifetime Scale	1983-84 Death Scale		1984-85 Lifetime Scale	1984-85 Death Scale
nil to £60,000	nil	nil	nil to £64,000	nil	nil
£60,000 to £80,000	15%	30%	£64,000 to £85,000	15%	30%
£80,000 to £110,000	17.5%	35%	£85,000 to £116,000	17.5%	35%
£110,000 to £140,000	20%	40%	£116,000 to £148,000	20%	40%
£140,000 to £175,000	22.5%	45%	£148,000 to £185,000	22.5%	45%
£175,000 to £220,000	25%	50%	£185,000 to £232,000	25%	50%
£220,000 to £270,000	30%	55%	£232,000 to £285,000	27.5%	55%
£270,000 to £700,000	35%	60%	£285,000 and over	30%	60%
£700,000 to £1,325,000	40%	65%			
£1,325,000 to £2,650,000	45%	70%			
Over £2,650,000	50%	75%			

FAMILY MONEY



Home improvements

How wider VAT net will affect builders

Any home improvements completed before June 1 will slip under the VAT net which the Chancellor has thrown ove all sorts of domestic activities from building a garden wall to putting up a greenhouse.

After that, the full 15 per cent already levied on maintenance and repair work will be extended to improvement. The cost of installing central heating in a three-bedroomed house will rise by £250 to £1,725.

Fitted bedroom and kitchen furniture and split level cookers which escaped VAT in the past if installed by a builder will now become liable to the 15 per cent levy.

Al conversion work on old buildings will also be liable for VAT. Only new building will be VAT-free. "It's a disaster," said Mr Michael di Marco, a South London builder. "Most of the work in London is on old buildings. All city centre refurbishment will cost 15 per cent more and this will encourage the demolition of old buildings and has implications for buildings of historic interest which will now be in greater danger of being pulled down."

Everything points to an expansion of the black economy, which is already thriving in the building trade.

The Government has been losing revenue through "cash" transactions and VAT decisions on renewing double glazing and damp proofing, and installing gas fires.

So as more and more building has been classified as new work rather than repairs and maintenance it is more attractive for the Government to tax all building work except new building.

Builders, who are notorious for evading all sorts of taxes, are already planning a way round the new levy. Those doing many small jobs could set up a separate company to do each job and these would be too small to qualify for VAT registration.

Another way round VAT would be for a builder to persuade a customer carring out a £20,000 renovation to set up his own one-off company to do the work. He would then employ the workforce directly and could find sources of raw materials which would not charge VAT for a cash transaction.

The National Home Improvement Council has, not unsurprisingly, attacked the extension of VAT. Mr Harry Barclay, chairman, said: "Far from VAT being extended, it should be dropped on housing repairs and maintenance and a tax allowance restored to be set off against the cost of repairs."

The move was also condemned by Sir Monty Finniston, chariman of the Building Economic Development Council who gave a warning it would encourage barter and cash deals.

"This must penalize the small bona fide tax paying firms which the Government is ostensibly keen to encourage," he said.

Vivien Goldsmith

Pensions

Pitfalls of an early retirement

Early retirement at 60 can be an attractive proposition for many men, especially if they have a company pension to look forward to. Unemployment benefit for the first year has always meant a financial "cushion" – or at least it did until the rule which stops unemployment benefit where there is a "substantial" company pension came along.

This rule will have been with us for three years next month, and in that time it has hit tens of thousands of men. The rule allows men in the 60 to 65 age group to have company pensions of up to £35 a week without unemployment benefit being affected. Over this level, however, and benefit is cut by 10p for every 10p the company pension is above £35.

The £35 figure has not changed during the past three years.

There is quite a substantial financial implication in all this. With unemployment benefit now at £27.05 a week for a single person and £43.75 for a married man, the cash loss over the year can be as much as £1400 and £2275 respectively. It means, too, that benefit goes completely when a company pension reaches £62.15 for a single person and £78.85 for his married counterpart.

Some ingenious ideas have been put forward on ways to get round the rule. The most common is to get a year's pension all at once. This idea gained favour because some lump sum payments are not counted. But it just does not work. The Department of Health and Social Security defines a lump sum as a payment made on one occasion and not intended to cover a specific period and "usually paid in addition to an award of occupational pension".

One thing which has changed, and for the better, is the way in which you can get free National Insurance contribution credits.

Up to last year, men whose unemployment benefit was stopped by the occupational pension rule had to continue signing on just to get these. That has now ended. Contribution credits are given automatically to men over age 60

Ian McDonald

Unit Trust Prices - change on the week

Authorized Unit Trusts

Prev W'end Offer	Ch'ge on Week	Trust	Bid	Current Offer	Yield
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers,			
		1-3 St Pauls Churchyard EC4P 4DX		01-236 1839	
98.5	+2.8	American Growth	95.2	101.3e	1.78
85.1	+1.6	Cmdty & Energy	81.5	86.7e	2.56
62.7	+0.3	UK Growth	59.1	63.5	2.19
100.5	+4.6	General	98.3	105.1e	2.36
124.1	+0.4	Gilt & Fixed Int	117.7	124.5e	9.64
142.7	+7.8	Japan	141.5	150.5	0.20
66.4	+1.1	H Inc Equity	63.5	67.5	6.27
154.0	+0.3	Worldwide	145.0	154.3	3.58
61.4	+3.3	Assets & Earn	60.5	64.7	2.60
142.5	+4.3	Equitas Prog	137.3	146.8	3.99
		Aitken Hume Funds (Man) Ltd,			
		1 Worship St. EC2A 2AB		01-638 6011	
132.3	+5.7	Secure Income	129.0	138.0e	6.10
125.4	+3.2	American Tech	120.3	128.6e	0.10
68.3	+4.5	Japan Tech	67.9	72.8	0.20
160.8	+4.2	Pacific	153.4	164.2	0.70
171.5	+7.8	Special Sits	167.9	179.5	0.10
37.3	+0.7	Inc & Growth	35.6	38.0	4.87
243.2	+4.5	Energy Ind Fnd	232.0	247.7	0.30
414.4	+19.3	Exempt Fnd (36)	403.7	433.7	3.60
286.2	+6.8	Small Co Fnd	276.5	295.0e	1.55
		Allied Unit Trusts Ltd,			
		Hambro Hse., Hutton, Essex.		0277 211459/229123	
173.8	+5.2	Allied Capital	168.1	178.2	2.65
143.4	+6.3	Allied First	140.3	148.7e	4.28
140.7	+3.9	Asset Value	136.4	144.6	3.84
93.1	+3.0	Growth & Inc	91.5	97.0	3.40
87.5	+5.7	Technology	86.6	92.8	0.60
105.1	+2.1	Met Min & Cmdty	101.1	107.2	1.67
155.9	+3.8	High Income	150.7	159.7e	5.12
88.3	+2.0	Equity Income	85.2	90.3e	5.44
62.4	+3.9	Japan Fund	62.5	66.3e	0.01
59.5	+2.9	International	58.9	62.4	0.83
108.7	+1.6	High Yield Trust	104.1	110.3	6.35
248.7	+9.6	Balanced	243.6	258.2	3.43
362.7	+14.8	Accumulator	356.1	377.5	3.18
52.2	+0.9	Recovery	50.1	53.1	3.07
93.0	+1.1	Smaller Cos	90.7	96.1e	2.79
123.5	+1.4	2nd Smaller	117.8	124.9e	2.72
33.4	+0.1	Gilt Growth	31.6	33.5	3.37
137.1	+3.8	Secs of America	133.0	141.0	1.48
45.3	+1.1	Am Special Sits	43.3	46.4e	0.97
118.0	+5.5	Pacific Trust	116.5	123.5	0.40
131.3	+4.1	Overseas Trust	127.7	135.4	3.17
31.4	+0.1	Govt Secs	29.7	31.5	8.60
		Arbuthnot Securities Ltd,			
		131 Finsbury Pavement EC2		01-628 9876	
47.9	+1.1	Capital Growth	45.1	48.1	2.26
49.5	+1.4	Do Accum	47.6	50.8	2.26

Prev W'end Offer	Ch'ge on Week	Trust	Bid	Current Offer	Yield
		Canada Life Unit Trust Managers,			
		2-6 High St, Potters Bar, Herts.		P Bar 51122	
80.7	+3.6	Canlife Gen	80.1	84.3e	3.30
120.0	+2.5	Do Accum	116.4	122.5	3.30
35.0	+0.1	Gilt & F Int	33.3	35.1e	..
57.8	+1.0	Income Dist	55.9	58.8	6.30
105.7	+1.9	Do Accum	102.2	107.6	6.30
		Capel (James) Management Ltd,			
		100 Old Broad St. EC2N 1BQ.		01-588 6010	
207.4	+6.9	Capital Fnd (3)	203.5	214.3	1.90
166.4	+2.3	Income Fnd (3)	160.2	168.7	6.05
195.3	-1.4	Nth Amer Fnd	184.5	193.9	1.39
		Cater Allen Unit Trust Managers			
		1 King William St. EC4N 7AU		01-623 6314	
109.6	+0.4	Gilt Trust	102.6	110.0e	11.04
		Cent Board of Fin of The Church of England			
		77 London Wall, London, EC2N 1DB		01-588 1815	
278.1	..	Invest* (42)	..	278.1	4.62
131.9	..	Fixed Int* (42)	..	131.9	10.85
100.0	..	Deposit (42)	..	100.0	9.30
		Charities Charities Narrower-Range Fund,			
		15 Moorgate, London, EC2.		01-638 4121	
153.4	..	Income (34)	..	153.4	10.37
372.2	..	Do Accum (34)	..	372.2	10.37
		Charities Official Investment Fund,			
		77 London Wall, London, EC2.		01-588 1815	
243.3	..	Income* (42)	..	243.3	5.71
647.2	..	Accum* (42)	..	647.2	..
		Chieftain Trust Managers Ltd,			
		11 New St, London, EC2M 4TP		01-283 1963	
42.2	+0.7	American Fnd	39.9	42.9	1.18
25.3	+1.4	Australian	24.9	26.7	1.34
53.1	+1.4	Basic Resources	49.9	53.5	1.38
65.0	+3.4	Far Eastern	63.7	68.4	0.19
45.1	+0.8	High Income	42.8	45.9e	8.41
36.6	+0.6	Inc & Growth	34.7	37.2e	6.16
62.0	+1.8	International	59.4	63.8	0.82
21.4	-0.1	Pref & Gilts	19.8	21.3	11.80
37.0	+0.3	Smaller Co's	34.7	37.3	2.10
		County Bank Unit Trust Services Ltd,			
		161 Cheapside, EC2V 6EU		01-726 1999	
218.9	+8.2	Capital	210.7	224.1	1.42
59.3	+0.2	Energy Trust	56.0	59.5e	0.59
121.1	+2.2	Extra Income	116.8	125.1	5.93
89.5	+1.6	Financial	85.7	91.1e	2.01
193.1	+9.9	Growth	192.7	205.0	2.71
87.5	+2.3	Income	84.5	89.8e	4.53
78.4	+2.8	Japan & Pacific	75.6	80.4e	1.09
89.4	-1.9	North American	82.3	87.5	0.55
133.0	+5.4	Portfolio	132.2	138.4	3.61
99.5	+1.3	Recovery	94.6	100.6e	1.48
131.1	+2.2	Smaller Co's	125.4	133.3e	2.45
		Craigmount Unit Trust Managers Ltd,			
		Electra Hse, Temple Place, WC2.		01-836 7766	
71.9	+1.6	Canadian	69.2	73.7	0.30
41.3	+0.1	Gilt	38.9	41.4e	8.90

[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

[illegible]

هكذا من الأصل

Pensions

Pitfalls of an early retirement

FAMILY MONEY

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Banks
Current account – no interest paid. Deposit accounts – Midland, Barclays, Lloyds, Natwest 5¼ per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. National Girobank 6 per cent. Lloyds extra interest 9 per cent. Monthly income account Natwest 9⅛ per cent. Fixed term deposits £2,500-£25,000 – 1 month 8.0, 3 months 8.25, 6 months 8.5 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays, Other banks may differ.

MONEY FUNDS

Fund	Flat	APR	Telephone
Aitken-Hume monthly inc	8.75	9.11	01 638 6070
B of Scotland	8.50	8.84	01 628 8060
Britannia call	8.875	9.245	01 588 2777
Mallinhall call	8.50	8.78	01 499 6634
Oppenheimer Sipico High interest deposit account	8.50	8.88	01 236 3887
S & P call	8.39	8.75	0706 66966
Schroder Wagg	8.60	8.95	01 382 6226
" over £10,000	8.65	9.22	01 382 6226
Tullet & Riley	8.64	8.87	01 236 0952
T & R 7-day	8.79	9.03	01 236 0952
Tyndall 7 day	8.75	9.04	0272 732241
Tyndall call	8.45		0272 732241
UDT 7 day	8.⅞	8.91	01 623 3020
Western Trust 1 month	8.25	8.57	0752 261162

National Savings Bank
Ordinary accounts – interest 6 per cent on £500 minimum on deposit for whole of 1984, otherwise 3 per cent. Investment Account – 11% interest paid without deduction of tax, 1 month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000.

National Savings Certificates 26th Issue
Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 8.26 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

National Savings Income Bond
Min investment £2,000 – max. £50,000. Interest – 11½ per cent variable at six weeks notice – paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 or 6 months notice – check penalties.

National Savings 2nd index-linked certificates
Maximum investment £10,000, excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the retail price index Supplement of 0.2 per cent per month up to October 1984 paid to new investors; existing holders receive a 2.4 per cent supplement between October 1983 and October 1984 4 per cent bonus if held full five years to maturity. Retirement Issue Certificates purchased in March 1979, £173.13 including bonus and supplement.

Guaranteed Income Bonds
Return paid net of basic rate tax, higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity.
2 years Canterbury Life 8.5 per cent. 3 years Canterbury Life 8.5 per cent. 4 years Continental Life 8.8 per cent. 5 years Eurolife 9.5 per cent.

Local authority yearling bonds 12-month fixed rate investments, interest 9⅞ per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local authority town hall bonds
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). 1 year Neath 9½ per cent. 2 years Broxbourne 10 per cent. 3-5 years Hyndbran 10½ per cent. 6-7 years Edinburgh 10¾ per cent. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Loans Bureau (01-834 0466 and after 3pm on 01-630 7401)see also on Prestel no 24808.

Building societies
Ordinary share accounts – 6.25 per cent. Extra interest accounts usually pay 1 per cent over the ordinary share rate. Regular savings schemes – 1.25 per cent over BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Investors in industry
Fixed term, fixed rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3 years, 10¼ per cent; 4-5 years, 10½ per cent; 6-10 years, 10¾ per cent; Further information from 91 Waterloo Road, London SE1 (01-928 7822).

Foreign currency deposits
Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Intl. Reserves 0481 26741. seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

Sterling	8.66 per cent
US dollar	8.78 per cent
Yen	5.84 per cent
D Mark	4.41 per cent
French Franc	12.32 per cent
Swiss Franc	1.56 per cent

February RPI: 342.6 (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month.)

Law Report March 17 1984

Newspaper need not disclose its source but cannot use tapes

Francome and Another v Mirror Group Newspapers and Others
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Stephen Brown
[Judgment delivered March 16]

The Court of Appeal, in allowing in part an appeal by the defendants, Mirror Group Newspapers Ltd, Michael Molloy, Alister Martin and Roger Beam, discharged an interlocutory injunction granted by Mr Justice Park requiring the defendants to reveal the identity of the persons who had offered to sell them tapes of telephone conversations obtained by unlawful tapping of the telephone of the plaintiffs, Mr and Mrs John Francome.

The court, however, refused to discharge the injunction restraining the defendants from publishing any article based on the contents of the telephone conversations.

Mr Leonard Hoffmann, QC and Mr Andrew Caldecott for the defendants; Mr Richard Hartley, QC and Mr Thomas Shields for the plaintiffs.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the plaintiffs were husband and wife, the husband being the champion National Hunt jockey. The defendants were the proprietors of the *Daily Mirror*, its editor and two of its reporters.

An unidentified person planted a "bug" on any telephone conversations which were made to or from the plaintiffs' home. It had nothing to do with the *Daily Mirror*. It was not clear for how long the "bug" was in operation, but it was for not less than three months and might have been longer.

The *Daily Mirror* came into the story when the eavesdroppers offered to sell them 38 tapes of telephone conversations obtained by those means. In seeking to confirm the authenticity of the tapes, the defendant reporters approached Mr Francome and told him of their existence.

The plaintiffs said that the defendants could not be allowed to make any use of the tapes or of the conversations which they record. There was a twofold basis for that contention. The first was that both the eavesdroppers and the defendants knew that the conversations were confidential. Although users of the telephone took the risk of crossed lines and of official telephone tapping, they were entitled to regard their conversations as confidential.

It was therefore idle for an eavesdropper, and particularly a deliberate eavesdropper, to contend that he did know that the conversations were confidential. The plaintiffs said that in the circumstances revealed by the evidence, the defendants were in the same position as the eavesdroppers. Both were under a duty to preserve the confidentiality of the plaintiffs' private conversations.

The second basis for the contention was that the tapes and transcripts came into existence by means of acts which constituted criminal offences under the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949, and disclosure of the contents of the messages contained in those conversations would also constitute such an offence.

The defendants submitted that whatever their obligations towards the plaintiffs upon grounds of confidentiality, they could rely upon the classic, but ill-defined, exception of what was quaintly called "iniquity". The basis of that exception was that while there was a public interest in maintaining confidentiality, there was a countervailing public interest in exposing conduct which involved a breach of the law or which was "anti-social".

In the defendants' submission the tapes revealed breaches by Mr Francome of the rules of racing and, bearing in mind the large sums of money which were staked on the results of races, the conduct they said was "anti-social" within the meaning of the iniquity rule and might also involve criminal offences.

It was not for his Lordship to say whether the tapes bore that interpretation and his Lordship expressed no view on that point which would be an issue at trial.

The defendants said that they had no intention of writing or publishing anything which was defamatory of Mrs Francome or of publishing any part of the tapes which related to conversations to which she was a party.

However, so far as Mr Francome was concerned, they said that they were prepared to justify anything which they might write and publish about him and that in those circumstances it would be contrary to all precedent for them to be forbidden to write and publish matter which, in the absence of justification, might be held to be defamatory.

They submitted that they should not be restrained from publishing the transcripts of the tapes and extracts therefrom or a summary by way of justifying any comments which, in the absence of such justification, might constitute an actionable libel.

Mr Molloy, in his affidavit, claimed the right in what he judged to be the public interest to comply or not comply with the law of the land made by Parliament by the constitutional processes. His Lordship hoped that Mr Molloy would acquit him of discourtesy, if his Lordship said with all the emphasis at his command that his Lordship regarded his assertion as arrogant and wholly unacceptable.

Parliamentary democracy was based upon the rule of law. That required all citizens to obey the law, unless and until it would be changed by due process. There were no privileged classes to whom it did not apply.

If Mr Molloy and the *Daily Mirror* could assert the right to act on the basis that the public interest, as he saw it, justified breaches of the criminal law, so could any other citizen. That had only to be stated for it to be obvious that the result would be anarchy.

In saying that his Lordship nevertheless recognised that, in very rare circumstances, a situation could arise in which the citizen was faced with a conflict between what was, in effect, two inconsistent laws.

The first law was the law of the land. The second was a moral imperative, usually, but not always, religious in origin. In conducting the business of the courts, judges sought to avoid any such conflict, but occasionally it was unavoidable.

Yielding to the moral imperative did not excuse a breach of the law of the land, but it was understandable and in some circumstances might even be praiseworthy.

However, his Lordship could not overemphasise the rarity of the moral imperative. It was almost unheard of for compliance with the moral imperative to be in the financial or other best interests of the person concerned. Anyone who conceived himself to be morally obliged to break the law, should also ask himself whether such a course furthered his own interests. If it did, he would be well advised to re-examine his conscience.

The "media", to use a term which comprised not only the newspapers, but also television and radio, were an essential foundation of any democracy. In exposing crime, anti-social behaviour and hypocrisy and in campaigning for reform and propagating the views of minorities, they performed an invaluable function.

However, they were peculiarly vulnerable to the error of confusing the public interest with their own interests. Usually those interests marched hand in hand, but not always.

In the instant case, pending a trial, it was impossible to see what public interest would be served by publishing the contents of the tapes which would not equally be served by giving them to the police or to the Jockey Club. Any wider publication could only serve the interests of the *Daily Mirror*.

The other remaining matter was the plaintiffs' claim for an order that the defendants revealed their source. That claim was based upon *British Steel Corporation v Granada Television Ltd* ([1981] AC 1096).

The most obvious answer was provided by section 10 of the Contempt of Court Act 1981, which provided that "No court may require a person to disclose, nor is any person guilty of contempt of court for refusing to disclose, the source of information contained in a publication for which he is responsible, unless it be established to the satisfaction of the court that disclosure is necessary in the interests of justice or national security or for the prevention of disorder or crime."

The plaintiffs said that the section had no application because there had as yet been no publication and, anyway, disclosure was necessary in the interests of justice. That was very debatable.

What then should the court do? The court was not at the present stage concerned to determine the final rights of the parties. The court's duty was to make such orders, if any, as were appropriate pending the trial of the action.

It was sometimes said that that involved a weighing of the balance of convenience. That was an unfortunate expression. The court's business was justice, not convenience. The court had to disregard fanciful claims by either party.

Subject to that, the court must contemplate the possibility that either party might succeed and must do its best to ensure that nothing occurred pending the trial which would prejudice his rights.

In the present case, assuming that the plaintiffs were entitled to an order that the defendants revealed their source, his Lordship could not see that they would be substantially prejudiced, if they had to wait until after the trial of the action, particularly as a speedy trial had been ordered.

On the other hand, if the court allowed the judge's order to stand, any argument by the defendants at the trial that the plaintiffs were not entitled to seek an order would be wholly academic. His Lordship would therefore quash that part of the judge's order.

There remained the injunction concerning disclosure. Such disclosure as had taken place in affidavits was authorized by the exception in section 5 of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949, as being a disclosure "in the course of legal proceedings".

For the injunction granted by the judge, his Lordship would substitute an injunction restraining "the defendants by themselves their servants or agents from disclosing, otherwise than under the authority of the appropriate Minister of the Crown as the successor of the Postmaster General or in the case of legal proceedings, any information as to the contents, sender or addresses of any telephone messages passing to or from telephones at the home of the plaintiffs, being information which would not have come to the knowledge of the defendants, but for the use of wireless telegraphy apparatus by the defendants or any of them or by another person."

The defendants had submitted that such an injunction could only be granted at the suit of the Attorney General. His Lordship disagreed. The court had a complete discretion as to what order to make in order best to preserve the rights of the parties.

In his Lordship's judgment an order forbidding the defendants to commit what would probably constitute a criminal offence, but otherwise leaving them free to pursue such course as they deemed proper, would best achieve that object.

Assuming that the tapes revealed evidence of the commission of a criminal offence or a breach of the rules of racing – and his Lordship stressed that that was an assumption – it might well be in the public interest that the tapes and all the information to be gleaned therefrom be made available to the police and to the Jockey Club. Accepting the defendants' expressed desire to promote the public interest, it would be open from them to apply to the appropriate Minister of the Crown for authority to disclose all the information to one or other or both of those authorities.

Furthermore, if the defendants wished to publish statements which were *prima facie* defamatory of Mr Francome – and they had disavowed any intention of making such statements about Mrs Francome – the exception contained in the injunction which his Lordship proposed and in the section of the Act would leave them free to use the tapes as evidence in support of a plea of justification.

Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Stephen Brown delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Nicholson Graham & Jones; McCloy Day-Wilson & Co, Newbury.

Proviso not apt if judge errs

Regina v Cockley
Before Lord Justice May, Mr Justice Bristow and Mr Justice Macpherson
[Judgment delivered March 16]

Where a judge erred in law in rejecting a defence submission of no case to go to the jury, the Court of Appeal could not review the whole of the defence evidence or uphold the defendant's conviction, by applying the proviso to section 2(1) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 on the ground that no miscarriage of justice had occurred.

The Court of Appeal so stated on dismissing an appeal by Wayne Edward Cockley, aged 16, from conviction at Snaresbrook Crown Court (Judge Owen Stable, QC and a jury) for having an offensive weapon, a knife, in a public place without lawful authority. He was sentenced to six months' youth custody.

Mr Bruce Speller, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr A. B. Issard-Davies for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE BRISTOW, delivering the reserved judgment of the court, said that the appellant was tried with two co-accused. On appeal he contended that the trial judge had erred in law or in the exercise of his discretion in admitting police evidence that the appellant had been involved in an earlier incident on the same day, involving knives.

The trial judge had, of course, a discretion to exclude admissible evidence if in his judgment its prejudicial effect would be disproportionate to its probative value.

However, such a discretion was to be exercised to promote, not to defeat, the course of justice. All evidence against an accused person was necessarily prejudicial to him. It was a matter of striking a proper balance between proof and prejudice. The court on appeal would be slow to interfere with the trial judge's exercise of discretion. He had to have a far better sense of the immediate trial priorities than their Lordships on appeal.

The admission of the police evidence of the earlier incident was absolutely proper.

Mr Speller accepted that, once the defence evidence had been called there was evidence before the jury which, if they accepted it, had to lead to the conviction of the appellant, who had not given evidence.

Mr Speller had canvassed the situation if their Lordships concluded that the trial judge had erred in law not to withdraw the case against the appellant from the jury. He drew attention to *R v Power* ([1919] 1 KB 572), in which it was said that, if a judge wrongly overruled a submission of no case and then one defendant gave evidence against the other, the appeal court was not bound to quash the conviction because the submission had been wrongly overruled but might take into account the whole of the evidence given. He drew attention also to the comments on *Power* by Lord Goddard in *R v Abbott* ([1955] 2 QB 497, 505).

In their Lordships' judgment it was not the law that, if on appeal to the Court of Appeal, it was established that the trial judge had erred in law by not upholding a submission of no case to go to the jury, it was open to the court nevertheless to look at the whole of the evidence given below in deciding whether or not to quash the conviction which followed the judge's error of law.

Had the trial judge not gone wrong in law he would have been bound to tell the jury there and then, whether or not he immediately directed them to acquit, that they were no longer concerned with the case against defendant X and that they were from then on only concerned with co-accused Y and Z.

It was clear that the proviso to section 2(1) of the 1968 Act could not be invoked on appeal in that situation because, if the judge had not erred in law, the case against X would have finished there and then and become *res judicata*.

No evidence given by witnesses called in the defence of Y and Z, however much they implicated X, could thereafter affect his situation.

Mr Issard-Davies had disclaimed any suggestion that, if their Lordships took the view that the trial judge was wrong in allowing the case against the appellant to go to jury, nevertheless in view of what was said in *Power* their Lordships should consider not quashing the conviction.

However, since the trial judge had been right not to withdraw the appellant's case from the jury, the questions did not arise and the appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

No review of order

Regina v Warwick Crown Court, Ex parte Smalley

The order of a crown court judge to estreat the recognizance of a surety on the defendant's failure to surrender to bail for trial on indictment was a matter relating to trial on indictment, within the meaning of section 29(3) of the Supreme Court Act 1981, and was accordingly not subject to review by the Divisional Court.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Kerr and Mr Justice Glidewell) so held on March 14 dismissing an application for judicial review against the order of Judge Hamilton Hall at Warwick Crown Court estreating a £100,000 recognizance.

MR JUSTICE GLIDEWELL, with whom Lord Justice Kerr agreed, said that he was constrained so to hold, on the authority of *R v Sheffield Crown Court, Ex parte Brownlow* ([1980] QB 530), the reasoning of the majority of the Court of Appeal in that case being apt to cover the facts of the present case. It was undesirable that such orders were not subject to review or appeal but there was no doubt that such was the state of the law.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Equities strong, gilts firm

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 12. Dealings end, March 23. Contango Day, March 26. Settlement Day, April 2.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

FT STOCK INDICES	
GOVERNMENT SECURITIES	83.33 (83.12)
FIXED INTEREST	87.16 (87.16)
INDUSTRIAL ORDINARY	894.3 (875.6)
GOLD MINES	688.4 (688.9)
ORDINARY DIVIDEND YIELD	4.23% (4.33%)
EARNINGS YIELD	9.28% (9.15%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	13.03 (13.21)
P.E. RATIO (NIL)	12.34 (12.40)

BRITISH FUNDS

1983/84 High	Low	Stock			Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS								
104⅛	100	Exch	14%	1984	100⅛	..	13.878	8.547
98½	92¾	Exch	3%	1984	98½	+1/16	3.046	9.067
102¼	100⅝	Treas	12%	1984	101½	● ..	11.823	8.908
107⅞	104⅞	Treas	15%	1985	105	..	14.277	9.127
107	101	Exch Cv	12%	1985	102⅝	● ..	11.693	9.204
94	88¼	Treas	3%	1985	94	+⅛	3.192	8.493
103	99½	Treas	11½%	1985	102	+1/16	11.213	9.378
102	95½	Treas C	8¾%	1985	99	+⅛	8.810	9.234
104	100⅝	Exch	12¼%	1985	104	+⅛	11.772	9.531
103	99⅛	Exch	11¾%	1986	103	+1/16	11.332	9.595
102¼	98	Treas C	10%	1986	102	●+½	9.804	8.920
99¾	85⅝	Treas	3%	1986	88½	..	3.395	9.031
102	97¼	Exch C	10½%	1986	101	+1/16	10.302	9.482
104¼	100	Treas	12%	1986	104	+1/16	11.531	9.898
98⅝	94⅛	Treas	8¼%	1984-86	97⅞	+⅛	8.685	9.541
87⅛	84½	Exch	2½%	1986	85⅜	+¼	2.929	8.747
109½	105⅛	Exch	14%	1986	108½	+¼	12.905	10.183
107⅝	103	Exch	13¼%	1987	107	+¼	12.334	10.146
100⅞	95⅞	Treas C	10¼%	1987	100¾	+⅛	10.175	9.930
86⅛	80¼	Exch	2½%	1987	83⅞	+¼	2.981	8.859
101	95¾	Exch	10½%	1987	101	●+¼	10.398	10.116
93	88	Fund	6½%	1985-87	91⅜	..	7.114	9.775
99⅝	97⅞	Treas	10%	1987	99½	+1/16	10.052	10.162
85	80⅛	Treas	3%	1987	82¾	+⅛	3.625	9.143
104¾	99⅞	Treas	12%	1987	104	+¼	11.476	10.436
95	89⅛	Treas	7¾%	1985-88	93⅞	..	8.256	9.680
101⅛	95	Exch	10½%	1988	100	+1/16	10.439	10.317
106	98⅝	Treas IL	2%	1988	101	● ..	..	4.722
99½	95	Treas C	9¾%	1988	98½	+½	9.901	10.170
82	75¼	Trans	3%	1978-88	80	..	3.750	8.686
99	91	Treas	9½%	1988	96⅝	+1/16	9.834	10.442
MEDIUMS								
106¾	96	Treas	11½%	1989	104½	+⅛	11.043	10.395
103	95	Treas	10½%	1989	102¾	+¼	10.504	10.498
100	96⅝	Exch	10%	1989	99⅞	+¼	10.265	10.630
85	76⅛	Treas	5%	1986-89	81⅞	●+⅛	6.116	9.270
114	103	Treas	13%	1990	111½	+¼	11.906	10.821
91	87¼	Treas IL	2%	1990	88	..	..	4.531
110½	101	Exch	12½%	1990	107½	●+¼	11.620	10.751
93	85¾	Treas	8¼%	1987-90	92¼	+¼	9.159	10.445
108¾	97	Treas	11¾%	1991	106⅞	+⅛	11.284	10.868

[illegible]

FOOTBALL

Derby's match is as vital as the High Court fixture on Monday

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Talk of titles and recent success and the conversation will be dominated heavily by Liverpool, the reigning kings of the first division. But who are the clubs next in line to the throne if three points are awarded to the champions, two to the runners-up and one to those in third place over the last dozen years?

Nottingham Forest or Manchester United, perhaps, or Aston Villa or even Arsenal? They happen to lie fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth respectively in the present table. Above them are three clubs whose highest ambition next season might be to climb out of the second division. They are Derby County, Ipswich Town and Leeds United.

Derby, champions in 1972 and 1975, may even be playing for the last time as a League club this afternoon. Their home game against Brighton is almost as crucial as their next fixture, against the Inland Revenue in the High Court on Monday. Defeat in either would have serious consequences. They are already four points adrift.

Peter Taylor, Derby's manager, who paused long enough only to pick up his overcoat on Wednesday night after the FA Cup defeat by Plymouth Argyle, has dropped four of his most senior players. They include two Scottish internationals in Gemmill and Robertson, Futcher and Cherry, the goalkeeper who allowed a Plymouth corner to curl in over his head.

If Ipswich lose their seventh successive match, as is more than likely at Goodison Park, they will probably drop below Stoke City and into the bottom three. When the reverse fixture was staged at Portman Road in September, they beat Everton 3-0 to move into second place. They are now nineteenth.

Beyween 1975 and 1982 Ipswich finished in the frame five times but their successful side is now all but dismantled. Mariner became the fifth international to leave recently and Wark is expected to depart as well before the end of next week. Two of the few clubs that could afford to sign him face each other at Old Trafford today.

Arsenal have ramained unbeaten in the four games since Mariner joined them and they could extend their run. They welcome back Robson, absent for three months, but United could be without Whiteside. He recovered from a stomach strain only to twist an ankle in training.

Injuries are inevitable in such an overcrowded programme and three clubs offer contrasting methods of reacting to them. Mabbutt, out for seven games with a damaged knee, played for Tottenham Hotspur's reserves last night and is expected to join the first ream 18 hours later as substitute against West Bromwich Albion.

Forest, like Totenham and United, are involved in European ties next week and Brian Clough was more cautious about one of his doubtful representatives. Although Anderson stated that his dislocated elbow had healed sufficiently, Clough promptly omitted him at Villa Park. "I don't want to take any risks," he said. "We need players of his experience in Austria."

Graham Taylor prefers to follow Forest's gentler approach. After seeing that Johnston had fallen asleep on the coach back from Leicester, Watford's manager decided to rest the 20-year-old who has scored 17 goals in 21 games. After moving house and twice appearing for his country, the youngster is "exhausted".

● Crystal Palace have suspended their physiotherapist, Ron Woolnough, for two weeks. The Palace chairman, Ron Noades, confirmed the ban but refused to make any further comment.

Wallace surprises Liverpool

By Clive White

Southampton 2
Liverpool 0

Southampton gave Manchester United the opportunity to overtake the leaders, Liverpool, after two goals from Danny Wallace at The Dell last night.

Liverpool had to go into this crucial period in their season without the important services of their captain. Souness, because of the death of his mother on Thursday evening. This was the first of three matches in 10 days which may largely decide their fortunes this season.

In the absence of Souness, Nicol wore the number eleven shirt with Robinson standing down in favour of Rush, the league's leading goal scorer, who was returning after a groin injury.

Dalglish and Rush were playing their first full game together since Dalglish suffered a triple fracture of the cheekbone nearly 11 weeks ago. They were given little opportunity in the first half to re-forge their powerful relationship. Southampton's midfield gave Liverpool's reorganized one little chance to supply their famous duo. Williams and Holmes were busy performers in this region, and at the back Agboola stood confident and firm.

Goalmouth incidents at both ends were, to the displeasure of BBC television, miserably few, until Wallace came gloriously to the rescue in the 45th minute with a stunning goal. Worthington played a ball down the left which put Liverpool immediately under pressure. Dennis crossed and when the long, lean Wright headed back at the far post Wallace volleyed it first time with an overhead kick.

Southampton could claim to have made the greater progress in that direction with bright, neat approach work. In the sixth minute, Kennedy came to Liverpool's aid when he thrust his head in the way of Williams free kick which was motoring nicely towards the far corner. But it was not until the 31st minute when the Southampton crowd seriously believed they might penetrate the best defence in the first division. When a shot by Armstrong came back obligingly for Moran, he shot firmly at Grobbelaar who had to make a second lunge for the ball as Worthingyon followed up and forced a corner.

In the fifty-third minute Liverpool took off the ineffective Nicol and brought on Robinson, their central striker. The move did little to help Liverpool get more to grips with Southampton's middle men.

Southampton, just four days away from the FA Cup quarter final replay with Sheffield Wednesday, emphasised that the league was still their top priority. They played ofter with verve and confidence, none more than Moran, who made one spirited, weaving run of forty yards after dispossessing Johnston. But in the 76th minute he was a triffle unlucky with a diving header to a cross from Armstrong. A crowd of 19,698, an increase 2,000 on the average, gave them loud and enthusiastic support.

With five minutes remaining Southampton confirmed their victory with a second goal from Wallace, heading home from a Dennis cross.

SOUTHAMPTON: P Shilton; M Mills, M Dennis, S Williams, R Agboola, M Wright, N Holmes, S Moran, F Worthington, D Armstrong, D Wallace.
LIVERPOOL: B Grobbelaar; P Neal, A Kennedy, M Lawrenson, R Whelan, A Hansen, K Dalglish, S Lee, I Rush, C Johnston, S Nicol.
Referee: B T Stevens (Stonehouse).

● Bristol Rovers have been refused permission by the Football League to postpone today's third division promotion clash with Wimbledon

Weir provides hope

By Hugh Taylor

Pride is at stake at Pittodrie today. Aberdeen and Dundee United, the new northern heavyweights whose lights have been dimmed by recent lacklustre displays, feel that they are once again being overshadowed by the old firm of Celtic and Rangers and will battle fiercely in their Scottish Cup quarter-final tie.

It could be a fascinating encounter. When they are at their best the clubs provide the country's most attractive football. Today, however, both may be weighted down with care to such an extent that grim endeavour and a sheer fighting spirit may replace the bubbling vivacity which has been their trade mark.

Aberdeen are aghast at the thought of sustaining three defeats in a row – they have just been beaten by Celtic and Ujpest Dozsa – and anxiety is affecting them. But United have been sadly inconsistent and they too may be over desperate. Both need victory need to set them up for Wednesday's European home ties against Continental opposition who exposed weaknesses in the Scottish sides in the first legs, Rapid outplaying United, who were strangely lethargic in defence, and Ujpest beating an Aberdeen team whose finishing was deplorable.

Although United have the distinction of being the only team to have won at Pittodrie this season, Aberdeen, with Weir, their entertaining winger, likely to be back after injury are favourites to win against opponents who may be without two of their regulars.

Now that they have disposed of their two rivals in the League Cup and meet in the final on Sunday, Celtic and Rangers feel they can emphasize their old firm superiority in the Scottish Cup as well. Both are expected to win today and go into the semi-final draw to be made on Monday.

Rangers were close last week to seeing their Cup dream vanish against the courageous Dundee, and should have done better than draw 2-2 at Dens Park. At Ibrox today, however Dundee are depleted because of injury and suspensions and the Rangers mangaer Jock Wallace is confident his unchanged side will make no mistake in the replay.

Celtic travel to Motherwell, hopes heightened by the news the Provan, their international winger, is ready to start a senior game for the first time since November 5 when he injured a hamstring.

Motherwell are recognised as formidable Cup fighters but injuries have played havoc with the side

Task for Whitby in Trophy

By Paul Newman

Whitby Town, one of the most successful cup sides in non-league football today, aim to reach the semi-finals of the FA Trophy for the first time. The Northern League side, whose only defeat in 17 cup matches this season was away to Wigan Athletic in the second round of the FA Cup, travel to Dagenham, who themselves have the best Trophy record of any club in the country over the last eight years.

Whitby, who are still in four cup competitions, face a difficult task. In recent years Dagenham have reserved their best performances for Trophy matches

More that 500 Whitby supporters are expected at Dagenham but attendance is unlikely to match that at Telford United. The trophy holders, who this season beat three League clubs before going out to Derby County in the fourth round of the FA Cup, drew a crowd of nearly 3,000 against Bromsgrove Rovers in the last round of the Trophy and expect an even better gate for today"s visit of Marine, of the Northern Premier League. Northwich Victoria, last season's beaten finalists, entertain Barnet.

IN BRIEF

Horton eases gently into joint lead

Tommy Horton, of Britain, who has been troubled by tennis elbow for two years, shared the lead with Eamonn Darcy, of Ireland, after the second round of the Mufulira Open golf championship in Zambia yesterday.

They are on 137, two strokes clear of David Jones of Northern Ireland. Steven Martin of Scotland and David Vaughan of Wales are on 140.

BOXING: Billy Costello will defend his World Boxing Council light-welterweight title for the first time against fellow-American Ron Shields on April 15. The venue will be announced later.

● Two Young England boxers, Roy Conner (Fitzroy House) and Derek Angol (Lynn) have tough contests in the London finals of the ABA national championships at the Albert Hall next Thursday. Conner meets the ABA light-middleweight champion, Rod Douglas (St George's) and Angol faces the experienced Robert Parkes, of Repton.

TENNIS: John Mc Enroe will be out for three weeks after pulling a back muscle in training for next week's Cuore Cup indoor event in Milan. The injury interrupts a fine start to the year by the 25 year old New Yorker who has won 24 matches in a row since losong to Matt Wilander in December.

● The United States will play their Davis Cup quarter-final tie aginst Argentina in Atlanta, Georgia, from July 13-15.

● Julie Salmon, who picked up £200 lst Sunday for winning the first of the two British Women's Tennis Association tournaments, made a good start yesterday to the second in beating Sue Leach, of Essex, 6-1, 6-4.

ATHLETICS: Sydney Maree, expected to run for the United States at the Los Angeles Olympic, said while on a visit to Johannesburg yesterday that he regretted not being able to compete for his native country of South Africa.

● Alberto Salazar, holder of the world's best marathon time, has withdrawn from the United States team for the world cross country championships tomorrow week because he is suffering from anaemia.

SKI JUMPING: The Olympic champion, Matti Nykaenen, set a world record distance of 182 metres in Oberstdorf, West Germany, yesterday.

EQUESTRIANISM: Prize money won between now and the Olympic Games by Captain Mark Phillips and his Range Rover horses will be donated to the British international fund.

FOR THE RECORD

BADMINTON

MALMO: Swedish open: Women's singles, first round: English names first: G Clark bt Y Kusmiatie (Indo) 6-11, 11-8, 11-5; F Elliott lost to S Komoto (Jap) 11-1, 11-1; G Gowers bt R Komaladewi (Indo) 11-8, 11-7; S Podger bt Tai Mei Chuan (Mal) 11-0, 11-1. Second round: Clark lost to K Larsen (Den) 11-3, 11-8; Gowers lost to Yoon Sook Kim (S Kor) 11-6, 11-5; Podger lost to D Kjaer (Den) 10-12, 12-10, 11-6.

HOCKEY

NATIONAL SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT: Under-18: Tunbridge Grammar (East) 0, Banbury (South) 0; Chase (Midlands) 0, Cheltenham Ladies (West) 1; Banbury (South) 0, Ormskirk (North) 0; Tunbridge Grammar (East) 1, Chase (Midlands) 0; Ormskirk (North) 1, Cheltenham Ladies College (West) 0; Banbury (South) 1, Chase (Midlands) 0; Ormskirk (North) 1, Tunbridge (East) 0; Banbury (South) 0, Cheltenham Ladies College (West) 1; Ormskirk (North) 1, Chase (Midlands) 0; Cheltenham Ladies College (West) 1, Tunbridge (East) 0. Under-16: Queen Mary's (North) 3, St Edwards (East) 0; Ranelagh (South) 0, Cheltenham Ladies College (West) 0; Dame Alice Harpur (Midlands) 1, St Edwards (East) 0; Queen Mary's (North) 1, Cheltenham Ladies College (West) 0; Dame Alice Harpur (Midlands) 1, Ranelagh (South) 1; Cheltenham Ladies College (West) 0, St Edwards (East) 0; Queen Mary's (North) 1, Dame Alice Harpur (Mid) 0; Ranelagh (South) 1, St Edwards (East) 0; Dame Alice Harpur (Midland) 0, Cheltenham Ladies (West) 0; Queen Mary's (North) 0, Ranelagh (South) 0.

WEIGHTLIFTING

MINSK: Snatch (lightweight category): V Grachov, 155.5 kgs (world record).

SNOOKER

HUDDERSFIELD: Professional league: J Virgo bt W Werbeniuk (Can) 8-2.

TENNIS

ROTTERDAM: Grand Prix tournament: Second round (US unless stated): J Connors bt F Buehning 6-2, 6-1; I Lendl (Cz) bt Marco Ostoja (Yugo) 7-5, 6-1. Quarter finals: A Jarryd (Swe) bt K Curren (SA) 7-6, 6-2; S Edberg (Sw) bt Teltscher 6-1, 6-4.
METZ: Grand Prix tournament: B Drewet (Aus) bt T Wilkinson 6-2, 7-6.
BRITISH WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION: Weekend tournament: J Salmon bt S Leach, 6-1, 6-4; N Lusty bt S Nicolson, 7-5, 6-2.

GOLF

TUCSON, Arizona: LPGA Open: First round leaders: 68: K Whitworth. 69: J Stephenson (Aus); C Montgomery (Swe); P Sheehan; C Johnson; A Okamoto (Jap); J Joyce. 70: B Daniel; J-A Washam; S Barrett; B Pearson; B Nizrahie (Indo); L Rinker; N Friel-Uhlein; D Eggeling; L Peterson. British score: 76: C Panton.
ORLANDO: First round leaders: 67: L Thompson, R Floyd, H Sutton, G Burns. 68: P Jacobsen, F Zoeller. 69: B Crenshaw, J Cook, J Nicklaus, E Fiori, G Koch, G Morgan, M Lye, S Rachels. British scores: 73: M James. 75: P Way. 78: A Lyle.

SNOW REPORTS

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: All runs complete, wide cover of new snow with icy patches, vertical runs: 1800ft. Hill and main roads: clear. Snow level: 2000ft. Glenshee: Upper and middle runs: complete, hard packed snow on a firm base. Lower slopes: Ample nursery areas of hard packed snow on a firm base. Vertical runs: 1000ft. Hill and main roads: Clear. Snow level: 2000ft. Glencoe: Upper runs and lower slopes: Complete, wide cover of new snow on a hard base. Vertical runs: 1600ft. Hill and main roads: Clear. Snow level: 1800ft. Lecht: Upper and middle runs: complete, wide cover of new snow on a firm base. Lower slopes: Ample nursery areas of new snow on a firm base. Vertical runs: 700ft. Hill and main roads: Clear. Snow level 2000ft.

ROWING



As the wintry sun went down and a chilliness crept into the bones, the Cambridge crew set out yesterday evening on their last practice run from Putney to Mortlake. As they skimmed over the placid, cold waters, watched by a scattering of envious spectators, they were hoping that this last row would provide them with that little bit extra to come home in front today and deny Oxford their ninth consecutive victory. But whoever wins it will be a victory for the overseas oarsmen who are well represented in both crews.

Oxford look for nine wins in a row

By Jim Railton

Oxford are favourites for today's Boat Race (1pm), the 130th. They are attempting their ninth successive win – a feat they achieved twice in the last century. Cambridge hold the record, with 13 wins in a row between 1924 and 1936.

Oxford have a majority of overseas competitors in their boat. They line up wih no less than a pair of Canadian twin brothers, two Australians and an American coxswain. Cambridge have a Canadian ice hockey Blue and, of course, Steve Berger, their American president.

According to satellite predictions the wind will blow from the east, and at times apart from its strength will give millpond conditions under a neutral blue sku, albeit on a cold day. Oxford and Cambridge will row in West Germany boats, hotly pursued by Prince Hiro of Japan, who is a guest.

It has been difficult to assess the crews as they have spent only one week on the Tideway. The Cambridge No 5, Garrett, was still being nursed yesterday and he is an essential g in the Cambridge machine.

In attempting a profile of the crews one has to say it is Oxford's racers against Cambridge's cruisers. Oxford contain a boatload of winners – and their pride is at stake. The also have, besides racing maturity, an 11lb advantage per man.

Cambridge are rank outsiders and are precariouslybuilt around one man, John Pritchard, an Olympic and world silver medal winner. His class is undeniable. He also has the distinction, which must be unique in Boat race history, of coaching for Cambridge and Oxford.

Oxford will go out for an early lead, but if Cambridge are in contention in the later stages then danger will threaten.

Kinsella, the Cambridge stroke, after disasters in the past on the Tideway, can show spirit given a chance. Oxford are an odd crew to watch. Their timing appears to come from nowhers. At times thay achieve the brilliance of a centipede with chilblains, but their pace is deceptive.

They also have a winning coach in Daniel Topolski. The programme, however, has the arrogance, or perhaps it is a misprint, of not even mentioning Allan Innes, Cambridge's chief coach.

Oxford had their comeuppance last Saturday when they went out cold against the National Squad. Cambridge, on the same day, lifted like a phoenix from the ashes, with an exhilarating full course rowing down their talented reserves Goldie on the outside of the final bend to Mortlake.

For that reason alone, Oxford cannot be complacent and despite the toss of the golden sovereign to decide stations, Oxford will be looking for an early knock on the head of their opponents.

In the 129 encounters Cambridge have won 68 and Oxford 60 with "Honest John Phelps declaring a dead heat to Oxford by five feet" over the four and a quarter mile course in 1877.

Today's Boat Race crews

Oxford

		st	lb
Bow	*R C Clay (Eton and New College)	13	0
2	C L B Long (St Paul's and Oriel)	12	4
3	J A G H Stewart (Harrow and Pembroke)	14	7
4	D M Rose (Queensland University and Balliol)	15	2.5
5	*W M Evans (Queen's University, Canada, and University)	14	5
6	*G R D Jones (Sydney University and New College)	14	0.5
7	*W J Lang (Wallingford and Magdalen)	14	0.5
Str	*J M Evans (Princeton and University)	13	10
Cox	S R Lesser (Princeton and Magdalen)	8	1
	Average weight	13	12.5

*A Blue

Cambridge

		st	lb
Bow	A H Reynolds (Imperial College and Pembroke)	12	2
2	*A R Knight (Hampton and Clare)	12	5
3	*S W Berger (Dartmouth College, US, and Trinity)	14	10.5
4	G A D Barnard (Lakefield CS, Canada, and Robinson)	12	11
5	*J L D Garrett (Shrewsbury and LMBC)	14	4
6	J M Pritchard (St Clement Dane's and Robinson)	13	9
7	*E M O Pearson (King's, Canterbury, and Jesus)	12	5
Str	J D Kinsella (Bedford Modern and St Catharine's)	12	11
Cox	P M Hobson (Belle View, Bradford, and Christ's)	7	6
	Average weight	13	1.5

BASKETBALL

Players of the year

Dan Lloyd and Anita Curtis have been named as "players of the year" for 1983, by the English basketball association. Lloyd, the Crystal Palace team captain, played an important part in helping England win the Commonwealth championships in New Zealand, and has again been influential in Palace's reaching this season's National League play-offs at Wembley.

Curtis, capped 53 times by England, helped Northampton win their first league title this year.

GOLF

Meacher's labour

By Nicholas Keith

Cambridge University have established a good position from which to win their fourth match in a row against Oxford. They took a lead of 3½ to 1½ on the old course at Sunningdale after yesterday's 36-hole foursomes.

One of their stalwarts was a freshman, David Meacher, the son of the Labour politician Michael Meacher, who caddied staunchly throughout the day. Meacher and his captain, Twigden, recovered from being two down at lunch with solid golf in the afternoon, when they were two under par for nine holes, against Dufton and Rendall.

The most important match was a gripping, see-saw affair with Wilkinson, the Cambridge secretary, and Johnson racing to five-up after nine holes. However, they were hauled back to all-square at the 17th, only to win the last hole of the morning.

Then Bastianello and Barrett-Greene recovered to lead by two-up after 11 holes before losing three in a row, with Johnson hitting some excellent long second shots. Yet the Oxford pair squared the match at the 17th when Wilkinson fluffed his second into a bunker, and the match ended with a nervous half.

Edmond, the holder of the President's putter, and Wilson were only about two strokes over par in beating the Oxford captain, Hodson, and McPhee. Cox and Palmer were also steady for Cambridge in the third match.

Oxford's solitary point was scored by the left-handed Noonan and the long-hitting Wuollet, from Purdue University, Indiana, who is on a post-graduate business management course. One of the highlights today will be his singles match against Edmond.

FOURSOMES: (Cambridge names first): T A Wilkinson (Worksop and Trinity) and D W Johnson (Hurstpierpoint and Magdalene) halved with A Bastianello (Sevenoaks and Oriel) and A A Barrett-Greene (Malvern and St Edmund Hall); D I Wilson (Cheltenham and Magdalene) and A G Edmond (Hymers and Trinity) bt A C Hodson (Cutford and St Peter's) and M W M R MacPhee (Edinburgh Academy and Oriel), 4 and 3; M R A Cox (King Edward VI Southampton and Girton) and R C F Palmer (CCAT, and Magdalene) bt D J Paterson (Aberdeen University and Linacre) and I M Lewis (Christ College, Brecon, and Jesus), 4 and 3; J R W Beasley (St Paul's and Magdalene) lost to G D Wuollet (Purdue University and New) and S J Noonan (John Cleveland Collge and Merton), 4 and 3; S C K Twigden (Mark Rutherford and Selwyn) and D C Meacher (William Ellis, Camden and Fitzwilliam) bt M J Dufton (Bradford Grammar and Keble) and D Ll Rendall (Ochta and Oriel), 3 and 2. Cambridge 3½, Oxford 1½.

CALCUTTA: Indian open: Second round leaders: 138: J Lewis (US), 73, 65; R Alarcon (Mex), 70, 68. 139: R Velasquez (Col), Hsu Sheng-Ser (Tai), Hung Nen-Neng (Tai).

CRICKET

Garner in control

Port of Spain, (AP) – The West Indies fast bowler Joel Garner had Australia in trouble, taking all four wickets at the tourists collapsed to 55 for four at lunch on the first day of the second Test match here.

Garner dismissed the left-handed opener Kepler Wessels with his fifth ball and then followed with the wickets of Greg Ritchie, Wayne Phillips and the Australian captain, Kim Hughes, after the acting West Indies captain, Vivian Richards, won the toss and decided to put Australia in first on a grassy pitch in overcast weather.



Garner: takes four

Wessels received a ball which bounced and flew off the shoulder of the bat to Larry Gomes at fourth slip. Ritchie was bowled behind his back as he went across his stumps too far to a good-length ball, and Phillips touched a catch to the wicketkeeper Jeffrey Dujon, as did Hughes 10 minutes before lunch.

At the other end, Malcolm Marshall, returning to the West Indies team after missing the first Test with a knee injury, could not find pace or control. One of his few bouncers was hooked for a big six

AUSTRALIA: First innings

K C Wessels c Gomes b Garner	4
†W B Phillips c Dujon b Garner	4
G M Ritchie b Garner	1
*K J Hughes c Dujon b Garner	24
A R Border not out	12
D W Hookes not out	0
Extras (b 4, n-b 6)	10
Total (4 wkts)	55

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–4, 2–7, 3–18, 4–50.
BOWLING: Garner 8-3-22-4; Marshall 6-1-24-0; Daniel 1-0-6-0.
TO BAT: D Jones, G P Lawson, T Hogan, R M Hogg, T M Alderman.
WEST INDIES: Iva Richards, C G Greenidge, D L Haynes, R B Richardson, L Gomes, A Logie, M D Marshall, J Garner, W W Daniel, M A Small, †J Dujon.
*Captain.

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RUGBY UNION

Wales seize late chance

By John Clemison

English Universities 10
Welsh Universities 12

A stunning display by half-backs Moon and Thorburn brought Welsh Universities a narrow victory over their English counterparts at Harlington yesterday afternoon. Though the Welsh win was not particularly emphatic, their ability to harass their much-fancied opposition out of the game, coupled with their supreme control of the loose ball, was enough to set the English selectors thinking about their side to face the Polytechnics at Loughborough next Wednesday.

On paper, the English side should have won handsomely, albeit with their fifth-choice front row. They were much meatier in the scrums, and more experienced in the backs. Where they suffered was at the lineout, where Rodliff, of Swansea, caused them endless trouble, and in the loose, a phase in which the Welsh proved sharper and more effective.

The English were 9-0 down at half time, having been pushed back repeatedly by the boot of Thorburn, whose punts were carried by the sharp wind into the deepest corners throughout the first half. Having conceded only an opportunist try, touched down after Ellis snatched the ball from a fumbling Webb, and a conversion and penalty goal by Thorburn, the English expected to romp home once the wind was in their favour.

Indeed, they were soon in the lead after their two magnificent centres, Jenkins and Burnhill, had weaved their way through for tries, Llewellyn converting the first.

As the match drew to a close, though, the Welsh were presented with their chance to steal victory. It came from a typical darting run by Moon, who made two metres through a brokenfield. Eventually, Mousley, the Warwick flanker, caught him, but at the tackle the young Englishman played the ball and was promptly penalized by the sharp-eyed referee. Thorburn stroked the ball between the posts to rob the English Universities of their win.

English Universities: J Webb (Bristol); N George (Nottingham), S Burnhill (Loughborough), P Jenkins (Aston), P Cartwright (Bristol); D Llewellyn (Loughborough), C Williams (Loughborough); M Jones (Sheffield), T Rogerson (Loughborough), P Daniel (Nottingham), J Wells (Loughborough, capt. Rep: A Reason (Nottingham), B Mousley (Warwick), N Castleton (Loughborough).
Welsh Universities: D Horner (Swansea); N Cleary (UWIST) G Thomas (Aberystwyth); I Jeffries (Swansea), E Ellis (Aberystwyth); P Thorburn (Swansea), R Moon (UWIST, capt); J Rowlands (Swansea), M Roberts (Swansea) D Roberts (Medicals), H Nicol (Swansea), S Rodliff (Swansea), D Gurnett (Bangor), S Roberts (Swansea). Rep: R McDonald, (Swansea), J Morris (Cardiff).
Referee: P Kingham (London).

CLUB MATCHES: Cross Keys v Neath, cancelled; Penarth 3, Newport 26.

More rugby, page 32

England a little too English

England Colts 28
Italy 0

England's coach, Dick Greenwood, looked disappointed at the end of this under-19 international at Guy's Hospital ground, London, yesterday. "There were several good prospects in the first half," he said, "but very fewe in the second – they faded."

The scoreline certainly flattered England.

Greenwood, taking time out from preparing the England team for today's match against Wales, summed up the forwards by saying: "They were fundamentally a little too English, a little too nice."

However, the stand-off Stuart Wakefield (St Helens) must have been one that caught Greenwood's eye as he kicked four penalties and two conversions. The other points came from the try scorers Neil Hargreaves, Phillip Halsall and Jeremy Chadewick.

ENGLAND: J Rogers (Hereford); A W Parsons (Moseley), M Tainton (Bristol), J F Chadwick (Roundhay), P Halsall (Orrell); K S Wakefield (St Helens), G T Read (Westcombe Park); G Holmes (Wasps), G A Kell (Gateshead), M R Walton (Alnwick) P J Bowman (Hinckley), K Ferdinand (Bedworth), N R Hargreaves (Bramley), C A Ashurst (Orrell, C I Ferns (Newport).
ITALY: E Busatto; P Stuirara, L Francescato, G Canda, N Pescetto; M Lancini, M Visentin; A Bottino, M Ruggiero, V Tolani, V Peace, F Berni, P Marghesin, L Costella, P Marta.
Referee: J Roberts (Gloucestershire).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Row spoils Widnes preparation for cup

By Keith Macklin

Preparations by Widnes for the semi-final of the Challenge Cup against Leeds have been thrown into confusion after an alteration between the clubs' senior coaches. Vince Karalius, the team manager who commutes from the Isle of Man and the chief coach, Harry Dawson, had harsh words on Wednesday before the game with Hull Kingston Rovers, which Widnes lost 17-8.

The subject was the attitude of Widnes towards Great Britain's coaching sessions, Dawson being in favour of allowing players to attend, Karalius against. Dawson stormed out of the Widnes ground and has threatened to resign. The club president, Jorn Davies, is trying desperately to patch things up.

Meanwhile, the Widnes opponents, Leeds, scrambled through their cup quarter-final replay against Bradford Northern on Thursday with a last-gasp try from Squire, the former Barnstaple Rugby Union player. Leeds travel to Whitehaven tomorrow in a first division game and may not have things all their own way. Frank Foster, the Cumbrians' rugged coach, has seen a mini-rivival by his team and promises Leeds a rough time in pursuit of their seventeenth game without defeat.

Having restored their league confidence with that win over Widnes, Hull Kingston Rovers should have no problems at home to Salford. Warrington, going strongly for the championship, should win, despite Oldham's recent improvement and Bradford Northern must put their disappointment behind them against Wakefield Trinity, who are doomed to relegation.

Fulham's despairing attempts to avoid relegation will n be helped by the fact that they travel to Wigan, where the cup semi-finalists have found a new lease of life, under the inspiration of the Australian stand-off half, Mark Cannon.

In the second division Barrow and Workington Town will continue their march towards promotion at hime to Carlisle and Huyton respectively.

CYCLING

Gang of four in with a chance

From John Wilcockson, Milan

Of the 230 starters in the Milan-San Remo Classic today, perhaps only 15 men have a serious chance of winning, and four of these come from a small group of English-speaking riders. Five British, three American, two Australians and two Irishmen are riding for various French and Italian teams, with Greg Lemond (US), Phil Anderson (Australia) and the two Irishmen, Sean Kelly and Stephen Roche, all on the list of favourites.

Lemond, the world champion, is not year on top form. He entered the Tirreno-Adriatico race last week merely for training, but being the great competitor he is, he won several of the bunch sprints during the five stages, and finished fifth overall after a brilliant second place on the closing time trial last Wednesday.

Anderson has been back racing in Europe for only two weeks, but his fifth place in the Paris-Nice this week proved that he is already in good physical shape. And with the support of his new team, Panasonic-Raleigh, he could well obtain the openings he needs to win the 183-mile Sam Remo classic. If he finds the distance too long for his present fitness, then the Australians could assist his Belgian team mate, Eddy Planckaert, who has won 12 races in the first sex weeks of this season.

On this St Patrick's Day the whole of Ireland is hoping that either Kelly, who won the Paris-Nice for the third successive time on Wednesday, or Roche, was was second, can cary their form through to Italy. Kelly was fifth at San Remo last year but Roche as not completed either of the two Milan-San Remo races he has started.

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

FOOTBALL

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Swindon 2, Swansea 0.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Sheffield Wednesday 1, Nottingham Forest 0. Second division: Grimsby 3, Port Vale 3.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: AP Leamington v Fareham, postponed.
LONDON SENIOR CUP: Third round: Leatherhead 0, Sutton United 1.

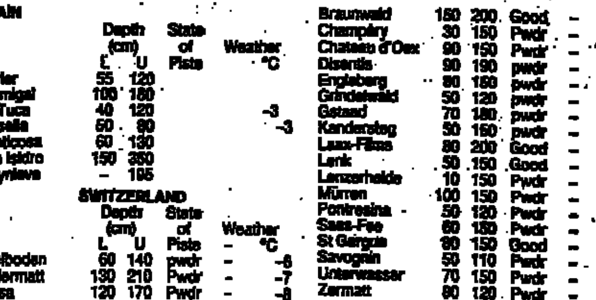
RUGBY LEAGUE

CHALLENGE CUP: Third round replay: Bradford Northern 10 Leeds 12
SECOND DIVISION: Rochdale Hornets 7 Bramley 9.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to Resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Crans-Montana	130	180	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	–5
Slush on lower slopes							
Davos	60	140	Good	Heavy	Worn	Sun	+3
Good upper skiing							
Flaine	150	325	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud	+7
Weather could be changing							
Kitzbühel	40	160	Good	Spring	Poor	Fine	+6
Excellent spring skiing							
Klosters	80	170	Good	Varied	Good	Sun	0C
Good skiing on north facing slopes							
Les Arcs	130	200	Good	Heavy	Good	Fine	–1
Skiing good on all pistes							
St Anton	80	260	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	+5
Spring snow on south facing slopes							
St Moritz	50	70	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	–2
Good snow on upper runs							
Verbier	45	195	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	+5
Slush on lower south facing slopes							
Villars	90	135	Good	Spring	Good	Fine	+8
Spring snow skiing conditions							
Wegen	30	135	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	+3
Good skiing above 1500m							
Val d'Isère	100	200	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	+1
Slush on lower slopes							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from a tourist board:



SPAIN

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather °C
Cerler	55	120		
Formigal	100	180		
La Tuca	40	120		–3
Masella	50	80		–3
Panticosa	60	130		
San Isidro	150	350		
Solynieve	–	195		

SWITZERLAND

	Depth (cm) L	U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Adelboden	60	140	pwdr	–	–6
Andermatt	130	210	Pwdr	–	–7
Arosa	120	170	Pwdr	–	–8
Braunwald	150	200	Good	–	–4
Champéry	30	150	Pwdr	–	0
Chateau d'Oex	90	150	Pwdr	–	–7
Disentis	90	190	pwdr	–	–3
Engleberg	80	180	pwdr	–	–8
Grindelwald	50	120	pwdr	–	–8
Gstaad	70	180	pwdr	–	–5
Kandersteg	50	160	pwdr	–	–8
Laax-Flims	80	200	Good	–	–3
Lenk	50	150	Good	–	–8
Lenzerheide	10	150	Pwdr	–	–9
Mürren	100	150	Pwdr	–	–4
Pontresina	50	120	Pwdr	–	–13
Saas-Fee	60	180	Pwdr	–	–3
St Cergue	80	150	Good	–	–3
Savognin	50	110	Pwdr	–	–6
Unterwasser	70	150	Pwdr	–	–8
Zermatt	80	120	Pwdr	–	–6

RUGBY UNION: FIVE NATIONS CHAMPIONSHIP FINALE

Rutherford will hold the key to Scots' hopes of grand slam

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

It is hard to resist the feeling that this will be Scotland's season. For all the brilliance of the French backs, the durability of their pack, the goal-kicking of Lescarboura, there is a down to earth aura of confidence among the Scots which encourages the hopr that, at Murrayfield this afternoon, they will achieve the second grand slam of their history by beating France, the other undefeated team in this season's international championship.

Should they do so, there are five survivors from that unbeaten 1925 side – Davies, Howie, Ireland, Waddell and Drysdale – who will applaud them. Should they do so it will be because they have paid strict attention to the dicta which Jim Telfer, their coach, was still stressing at yesterday's final training: "Work and concentrate."

Telfer, asked what a grand slam would mean to him, replied that it would mean nothing. He had not been born when Scotland last won it and is still not in the frame of mind to accept it as a possibility. It is possible for a variety of reasons, the greatest of which is the team spirit which he has helped engender.

Successful Scottish sides in past years have drawn inspiration from talented individuals: one thinks of Irvine, a replacement today, of Ken Scotland, of Arthur and Ian Smith, of Shaw and their likes. Now there are potential points scorers throughout the team, typified by the development at full back as player and goal kicker of Dods, who succeeded Irvine and now stands poised to break Irvine's record of 39 points in a championship season.

As always the key to victory will be provided by the respective half backs and back rows. Laidlaw and Rutherford come together fo the twenty second time, one short of the world record for half-back pairings held by Edwards and John of Wales. They offer considerable variety, whether it be Laidlaw with his crouching service from the scrum or Rutherford with his poised kicking and his capacity as a runner.

There should be no shortage of ammunition. Part of the fascination of this match is to see how the French cope with Scotland's rucking, with forwards as mobile as the French so frequently are. Scotland have also had to work on their lineouts to circumnavigate the tall Welsh trio in their first match, the athletic Bainbridge in their second and Lenihan in their third.

Whether they can do so effectively against France may depend upon the refereeing of Winston Jones, but Scotland have done well this season with referees new to the championship: Mr Jones, from the Welsh panel, joins Fred Howard (England) and Owen Doyle (Ireland) who made their debuts in Scotland's games.

This will be France's seventh international of the season, in which their best games have been against Romania and England, both in Paris. Nor should it be forgotten how well they scrummaged against Ireland in January after being reduced to a seven-man pack. The recall of Haget (6ft 4in) to the second row, though he will do well to match the catching of Erbani at the lineout, will bring experience vital in what will be a fervent atmosphere (there are reported to be 10,000 Frenchmen descending on Edinburgh).

Scotland's greatest advantage is that they are at home, at a ground where France have not distinguished themselves in recent years. Haget played in the last French side to win at Murrayfield, in 1978, as did Rives, the captain, and Gallion. Rives is looking for a third grand slam to go with that of 1977 (under the captaincy of Fouroux and not, as I carelessly suggested recently, Bastiat) and 1981.

It would be a delight to see Scotland's backs running at the French midfield, to see if Codorniou is as good in the tackle as Sella. Certainly we shall see the French backs having to turn and chase if Rutherford kicks as well as he did against England, and that seems likely to be Scotland's opening gambit: controlled possession and tactical kicking.

The French spent an hour at Lasswade yesterday, adjusting some of their forward ploys to accommodate Haget. They, too, may be fairly pragmatic in their initial approach and, with so much hinging on the result, the match may be no classic.

The connoisseur, however, should be licking his lips. Doug Davies, of the 1925 side, asked if he had been invited to any post-match celebration, is reported to have replied: "Och, they have not won yet." His 1984 successors are just as aware of that, but their prospects have never been greater.

Rutherford: can make the French turn with his kicking

Today's teams at Murrayfield

Scotland			France	
P W Dods (Gala)	15	Full back	S Blanco (Biarritz)	15
J A Pollock (Gosforth)	14	Right wing	J Bégu (Dax)	14
K W Robertson (Melrose)	13	Right centre	P Sella (Agen)	13
D I Johnston (Watsonians)	12	Left centre	D Codorniou (Narbonne)	12
G R T Baird (Kelso)	11	Left wing	P Estève (Narbonne)	11
J Y Rutherford (Selkirk)	10	Stand off	J-P Lescarboura (Dax)	10
R J Laidlaw (Jed-Forest)	9	Scrum half	J Gallion (Toulon)	9
J Aitken* (Gala)	1	Prop	P Dospital (Bayonne)	1
C T Deans (Hawick)	2	Hooker	P Dintrans (Tarbes)	2
I G Milne (Heriot's FP)	3	Prop	D Dubroca (Agen)	3
J H Calder (Stewart's Melville FP)	6	Flanker	*J-P Rives (Racing Club de France)	6
A J Campbell (Hawick)	4	Lock	F Haget (Biarritz)	4
A J Tomes (Hawick)	5	Lock	J Condom (Boucau)	5
D G Leslie (Gala)	7	Flanker	J-L Joinel (Brive)	7
I A M Paxton (Selkirk)	8	No 8	J-C Orso (Nice)	8
*Captain			*Captain	

Referee: W Jones (Wales)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 N A Rowan (Boroughmuir), 17 G J Callander (Kelso), 18 J R Beattie (Glasgow Academicals), 19 S Johnston (Watsonians) 20 D S Wyllie (Stewart's Melville FP), 21 A R Irvine (Heriot's FP)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 B Herrero (Nice), 17 M Cremaschi (Lourdes), 18 P Lacans (Nice), 19 P Berbizier (Lourdes), 20 L Pardo (Montferrand), 21 G Laporte (Graulhet)

England and Wales battle for scraps

By Gerald Davies

The honours in the international championship have been more evenly distributed in recent years among the home countries. England and Ireland have had their moments and now with Scotland, in their turn, on the verge of a famous accomplishment. England and Wales, with only one victory each, are reduced this afternoon to battling it out for third and fourth placings. There is not much prestige in that, but if the main prize has escaped them they can at least breathe a sigh of relief in not having to contend for the wooden spoon. In the muffled middle there is seemingly nothing much to play for.

However, that is too impulsive a conslusion and does not bear close scrutiny. The traditional sensitivities will stir, even to the crack of doom you might say, and the old scores of a special relationship, which are not necessarily of rugby's making, are there to be settled – by the best possible means and richest of attitudes.

The fixtures, regardless of its external influences, arouses no complacent or indifferent response, as Bob Weighill well understands when he considers, regretfully, the large number of requests for tickets he has had to turn down and, more tearfully, of the source of finance he has had to return. And in the last week he, along with the Welsh Rugby Union president, E. B. Davies, has had to canvass, with success, for the BBC to rearrange their television schedules to accommodate the demand. It is, then, no ordinary match.

But what of the game? And what of England? It is a season which began with so much promise, a convincing victory over the All Blacks giving rise to legitimate hopes of fulfilment in the championship. But the season has succeeded only in being a disappointing repetition, Billy Beaumont's great year apart, of so many others.

Injuries, particularly in the back division, will have had something to do with it but so also, one suspects, has some uncertainty in the choice at forward. From the start of the championship season Wheeler has been the only constant factor in the front row, while Scott, in the back row, has seen some comings and goings on the flanks. For today's match Rendall comes in at loose head to win his first cap, as does Dun at blind-side flanker. Bainbridge and Colclough have yet to recapture the form which saw them travel with success in the Lions party last summer.

If England can get it right here – and surely at this stage they must – then much will depend on the options they take at half back, where Cusworth and Youngs must adapt to the game as it unfolds.

As for Wales, there was not the slightest hint of promise to begin with. By contrast with England they were in utter disarray after the ignominious defeat in Romania but they have gone some way to reestablish their reputation, despite the two defeats at home.

John Bevan, their coach, is at least optimistic. "Our performances," he says, "have improved as the season has progressed. We are strong in the scrum, and although we are not where we want to be we are getting ample possession at the lineout. The attitude for attack is right in the threequarters, too." He recalls with some relish that it was they and not France who produced the running rugby at the Arms Park, where they won the try count by 2-1.

If Wales were guilty of playing the game too far away from the opposition line for far too long against France, the same could be said of England against Ireland. Wales are committed to run and, from what Wheeler, England's captain, says, and bearing in mind their style against Ireland, so are England. It makes for an interesting match in a championship which has gone a long way to restoring the prestige and image of the game.

Today's teams at Twickenham

England			Wales	
W H Hare (Leicester)	15	Full back	H Davies (Bridgend)	15
J Carleton (Orrell)	14	Right wing	M H Titley (Bridgend)	14
B Barley (Wakefield)	13	Right centre	R A Ackerman (London Welsh)	13
C R Woodward (Leicester)	12	Left centre	B Bowen (South Wales Police)	12
R Underwood (Leicester)	11	Left wing	A M Hadley (Cardiff)	11
L Cusworth (Leicester)	10	Stand off	M Dacey (Swansea)	10
N G Youngs (Leicester)	9	Scrum half	T D Holmes (Cardiff)	9
P A G Rendall (Wasps)	1	Prop	I Stephens (Bridgend)	1
P J Wheeler* (Leicester)	2	Hooker	*M J Watkins (Newport)	2
P J Blakeway (Gloucester)	3	Prop	I H Eidman (Cardiff)	3
A F Dun (Wasps)	6	Flanker	R D Moriarty (Swansea)	6
M J Colclough (Wasps)	4	Lock	S J Perkins (Pontypool)	4
S Bainbridge (Gosforth)	5	Lock	R L Norster (Cardiff)	5
P J Winterbottom (Headingley)	7	Flanker	D F Pickering (Llanelli)	7
J P Scott (Cardiff)	8	No 8	E T Butler (Pontypool)	8
*Captain			*Captain	

Referee: J B Anderson (Scotland)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 N C Stringer (Wasps), 17 S Barnes (Bristol), 18 R Harding (Bristol), 19 G S Pearce (Northampton), 20 S G F Mills (Gloucester), 21 D H Cooke (Harlequins)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 G Evans (Maesteg), 17 H E Rees (Neath), 18 M H J Douglas (London Welsh), 19 J Whitefoot (Cardiff), 20 W J James (Aberavon), 21 M Brown (Pontypool)

Coming up for more

With the national teams occupying centre stage, the understudies come out to the wings to take their places for the restricted club programme today. Many of them will be having their brief moment of glory in the unaccustomed late morning, before many a rugby field is properly aired (Bryan Stiles writes).

The idea is that after having given of their best they can adjourn to the clubhouse and watch their international colleagues display their superior skills on television.

Others, like Cardiff and Aberavon, will journey on to Twickenham to support Wales after their matches against London Welsh and Rosslyn Park, respectively.

Stefan Jones, stand-off half in the grand slam Wales under-18 schools team last season, makes his debut for Cardiff as a replacement for the club's record points scorer, Gareth Davies, who is injured.

The Twickenham confrontation also robs Northampton of a front row man, their vice-captain, Gary Pearce, for the game at Sale.

ATHLETICS

Hutchings takes on de Castella at Bolton

By Pat Butcher

Tim Hutchings, Britain's leading cross country runner, has made a late decision to race in Bolton against Robert de Castella, the world marathon champion from Australia, on Sunday. With David Lewis, sixth in the English national two weeks ago, also in the field, the race should be a marvellous prelude to the world cross country championships in New York tomorrow week.

Hutchings had intended to run in a road race this weekend, but he has been getting signs of the shin soreness that ruined his track season last year. He said yesterday: "I am a bit concerned about my shins flaring up again, so I prefer to avoid the roads if I can."

De Castella, too, was originally going to run in a road race on Saturday, the St Patrick's Day event in Dublin, but the cross country race at Bolton was specially arranged for him as a lead up to the world championship.

The race against de Castella, who must be considered one of the favourites in New York, will give Hutchings a clear idea of his current form, since he feels he is not in the same condition as when he won three top-class international events on the country before Christmas, an opinion which was confirmed in January when he finished eleventh and thirteenth in two road races in the United States. But says his training has been going well recently.

The course at Moss Bank Park in Bolton is mostly flat, and therefore fast, which, since the world championships are being run on a racecourse next week, should serve Hutchings and de Castella well.

LA smog risk to athletes and spectators

From Ivor Davis
San Diego

A leading American sports physiologist, Dr Peter Raven, has claimed that the smog level at this summer's Los Angeles Olympics could effect 10 per cent of the athletes physically and psychologically, as well as threatening the health of some spectators.

Dr Raven, a well-known researcher into the impact of environmental stress on athletes, was speaking on Thursday at a conference in Coronado, California, organised by the American College of Sports Medicine.

He said that smog would effect not only long distance runners but also athletes who have to stay in the sunlight for long periods, such as high jumpers or swimmers. He also pointed out that low ozone and carbon dioxide levels, which are characteristic of smog, have been shown to affect attention span and concentration.

Dr Raven particularly criticised the Olympic authorities for scheduling events such as the marathon (which starts on 5.15pm), to accommodate the television companies: "I think they picked the wrong place and the wrong time to have long distance events," he said.

● At a press conference in Bolton yesterday, Robert de Castella, the world marathon champion, again condemned the late start time of the Olympic marathon.

CRICKET

Gower's century steers England towards safety

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Faisalabad

With dour determination, England made sure of drawing the second Test match against Pakistan here yesterday. Because of prayers, the lunch interval lasted for 90 minutes, making it a day of only 72 overs. In this time England took their first innings from 233 for three to 461 for six.

Their resistance was led by David Gower, the acting captain, playing with a due sense of responsibility and only occasional falshes of his natural freedom. For much of the time he was 113 not out when play ended – he was kept at full stretch by Qadir. Fowler made a useful 57 and Marks a timely 45 not out: but it was Gower who held the innings together. His hundred was his eighth for England, his first against Pakistan and his third overseas. Like the rest of his side who have been unwell, Gower was feeling all the better for having had a day off.

If it ever entered into his head to declare England's innings in arrears he would not, I imagine, have considered it for long. There was no chance to speak of that Pakistan could be bowled out cheaply in their second innings, whereas it is just conceivable that England themselves might have been embarrassed by Qadir in the last few hours today. As it is, the match will peter out this afternoon – in the absence, that is, of something utterly improbable.

The new ball, taken in the second over yesterday, produced the wicket of Randall, bowled between bat and pad. After that it was negotiated without further bother by Gower and Fowler. Sarfraz is one of those rare birds who swings an old ball more than a new one. With the sweat from his brow rubbed into one side of it and the surface roughened on the other, he can perform wonders with it.

The new ball was taken without a run added, in the 94th over of England's innings. Despite Randall's departure, it was not until Qadir came on to bowl the 110th over that battel was really joined.

Qadir at once got the ball to bounce. He is very much a bowler of moods. His captains reckon to know, almost from where his first ball pitches, whether it is to be worth their giving him more than two or three overs in a particular spell. He was now on the spot right from the start, so that Zaheer kept him going at one end for 27 successive overs. No one played him with much assurance, not even Gower who, when he was 37, was probably fortunate to survive an appeal for a catch, off bat and pad, at silly mid-off off Qadir. Considering the flatness and deadness of the pitch, Qadir's was a fine piece of bowling.

Bob Willis, the England cricket captain, will be called to Lord's almost as soon as they return from Pakistan on March 27. The Test and County Cricket Board decided at their executive meeting yesterday to conduct the earliest possible discussions with the tour management after considering the board's position in the light of recent allegations about drug taking in New Zealand.

Fowler had reason to be grateful that by the time Qadir came on he had already reached 33, against the sort of bowling that suits him. He also made a fair fist of Tausif's off-spin. It was when Wasim Raja, bowling mostly googlies, came and partnered Qadir that Fowler had nowhere to go. Eventually, having been beaten several times by Wasim Raja outside his off stump, Fowler tried to hit him back over his head and was caught by long off, running in. By tea Taylor had pushed a leg break from Qadir straight to silly mid-off.

What made Qadir's accuracy the more commendable was that for most of the time he was bowling left-handers round the wicket. By evening his fingers were tired and his spin more gentle, but he was still giving remarkable little away. Safraz came back, belatedly I thought, to see what he could make of the old ball. A crowd of some 18,000 people had watched what they had seen with hardly a murmur. They had seemed appreciative, as though enjoying the finer points and of these there were certainly some.

Pakistan: First innings 449 for 8 dec (Salim Malik 116, Wasim Raja 112; G R Dilley three for 108).

England: First innings

M W Gatting c Salim Malik b Tausif	75
C L Smith b Sarfraz	66
D W Randall b Sarfraz	65
A J Lamb c Dalpat b Azeem	19
*D I Gower not out	113
G Fowler c Qasim Omar b Wasim Raja	57
†R W Taylor c Salim Malik b Qadir	0
V J Marks not out	45
Extras (b 10, n-b 11)	21
Total (6 wkts)	461

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-127, 2-163, 3-214, 4-245, 5-361, 6-361.

To bat: G R Dilley, N G Cook, N A Foster.

BOWLING: Azeem, 19-3-71-1, Sarfraz, 41-11-97-2, Wasim Raja, 26-6-61-1, Qadir, 46,13-107-1; Tausif Ahmed 30-10-66-1, Mudassar Nazir, 4-1-8-0.

New Zealand in control

Tight New Zealand bowling drove Sri Lanka into a corner on the opening day of the second Test in Colombo yesterday, the home team making 145 for six.

Tight security was in force after the crowd demonstrations against the Sri Lankan players on Wednesday following their 185-run defeat in the first Test at Kandy, but there was no repeat of that trouble.

Howard put Sri Lanka in to bat, hoping to make use of moisture in the pitch, and opening batsmen Weddimuny and Fernando shared a stand of 25 before Fernando was bowled by Martin Crowe.

Wettimuny and Kaluperuma put on 41 for the second wicket, but after Wettimuny was caught at slip off Chatfield the score slumped from 66 for one to 69 for four.

Dias, the vice-captain, back in the side after missing the first Test because of injury, was run out for 16.

SRI LANKA: First innings

E R N S Wettimuny c Coney b Chatfield	25
S M S Fernando b M Crowe	8
R L S Kaluperuma b Boock	23
R L Dias run out	16
*D L R Mendis b Hadlee	1
R S Madugalle not out	25
A Ranatunga c Smigh b Cairns	6
J R Ratnayake not out	19
Extras (b 5, l-b 6, n-b 6, w 4)	21
Total (6 wkts)	145

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-66, 3-68, 4-69, 5-99, 6-111.

TO BAT: D S de Silva, †R A de Alwis, V John.

BOWLING: Hadlee 16-8-20-1; Cairns 18-5-30-1; Chatfield 20-7-35-1; M Crowe 13-5-21-1; S Boock 11-2-18-1.

NEW ZEALAND: *G P Howarth, J A Wright, J F Reid, M D Crowe, J J Crowe, J V Coney, R J Hadlee, †I D S Smith, B L Cairns, E J Chatfield, S L Boock.

Botham's knee is on the mend

Ian Botham has been told that he does not require further surgery on his left knee. This follows a successful exploratory operation at a Brimingham hospital on Thursday.

The England player's prospects of an early return to top-level cricket appeared to rise after the good news from doctors at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital. A spokesman said that Botham's condition is "very satisfactory" and that he was "up and walking" yesterday morning. Botham is likely to remain in hospital over the weekend.

● Middlesex preparations for the new cricket season will be a warm-up match against Befordshire at Luton on April 25. It will be a 55-over game.

BOXING

King may stop Holmes-Coetzee fight

A row between Don King, the top American promoter and Larry Holmes, the former World Boxing Council heavyweight champion, could put a stop to Holmes's June title bout against Gerrie Coetzee, of South Africa.

King complains that Holmes resigned his WBC title and failed to defend it against Greg Page, one of King's men. He has threatened to block the contest unless he is paid $8m.

King claims that he has "a legal and binding contract with the promoters that guarantees him $8m if the fight takes place."

The unbeaten WBC lightweight champion, Edwin Rosario, of Puerto Rico, makes his first title defence in San Juan today against Roberto Elizondo, of United States.

FOOTBALL AND OTHER WEEKEND FIXTURES

Kick-offs 3.0 unless stated

First division
Aston Villa v Nottingham F
Everton v Ipswich
Leicester v West Ham
Manchester U v Arsenal
Norwich v Luton
Notts C v Coventry
Stoke v Birmingham
Tottenham v West Bromwich
Watford v QP Rangers
Wolverhampton v Sunderland

Second division
Barnsley v Portsmouth
Cambridge U v Sheffield W
Cardiff v Shrewsbury (12.30)
Carlisle v Charlton
Crystal Palace v Huddersfield
Derby v Brighton
Newcastle v Middlesbrough
Oldham v Swansea

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Barrow v South Liverpool; Gainsborough v Workington; Grantham v Chorley; Horwich v Mossley; Hyde Utd v Goole; Macclesfield v Stafford Rangers; Matlock v Rhyl; Morecambe v Burton Albion; Oswestry v Worksop; Witton Albion v Southport.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Alvechurch v Stourbridge; Bedworth v Hastings; Chelmsford v Dartford; Gloucester v Folkestone; Gosport v Cheltenham; Gravesend v Dorchester; Sutton Coldfield v King's Lynn; Welling Utd v Witney Town. Midland division: Aylesbury v Moor Gn; Banbury v Wellingbro; Bridgnorth v Milton Keynes; Bridgwater v Oldbury; Coventry v Redditch; Leicester v Bromsgrove; Rushden v G V S Rugby; Shepshed C v Forest Gn; Tamworth v Merthyr Tyd. Southern division: Addlestone v Dunstable; Andover v Chatham; Ashford v Poole; Cambridge City v Basingstoke; Dover v Erith and B; Hounslow v Woodford; R S Southampton v Canterbury; Thanet v Salisbury; Tonbridge v Hillingdon; Waterlooville v Crawley.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn v West Bromwich Albion (2.0)

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Arsenal v Fulham; Luton v West Ham; Oxford United v Brighton; Swansea v Watford.

IRISH LEAGUE: Ards v Glentoran; Ballymena v Distillery; Carrick Rangers v Cliftonville; Crusaders v Coleraine; Newry Tn v Bangor; Linfield v Glenavon; Portadown v Larne.

SCHOOL BOYS INTERNATIONAL: England v Scotland (Wembley)

F.A. TROPHY: Fourth round: A P Leamington v Bangor City, Dagenham v Whitby Town, Northwich Victoria v Barnet, Telford United v Marine. ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Frickley v Altrincham, Gateshead v Bath, Maidstone v Wealdstone, Runcorn v Yeovil, Scarborough v Enfield, Worcester v Boston United. ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier Division: Bromley v Bishop's Stortford, Croydon v Barking, Dulwich Hamlet v Tooting and Mitcham, Hayes v Wokingham, Slough Town v Walthamstow Avenue, Staines v Billericay, Sutton United v Harrow, Worthing v Hitchin, Wycombe Wanderers v Leytonstone and Ilford. First division: Clapton v Cheshunt, Epsom and Ewell v Maidenhead, Farnborough v Feltham, Hampton v Aveley, Hertford v Walton and Hersham, Hornchurch v Windsor and Eton, Leatherhead v Chesham, Oxford City v Wembley, Tilbury v Boreham Wood, Woking v Kingstonian. Second division: Corinthian Casuals v Barton Rovers, Epping v Uxbridge, Finchley v Eastbourne United, Grays v Dorking, Horsham v Southall, Leyton/Wingate v Basildon, Molesey v Hemel Hempstead, Newbury v Tring, Rainham v Hungerford.

SUSSEX SENIOR CUP: Semi-final (at Southwick): Bognor Regis Town v Peacehaven and Telscombe.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Berkhamsted v Thatcham; Chertsey v Harefield; Edgware v Horley; Harwich and Parkeston v Banstead; Hoddesdon v Camberley; Kingsbury v Fleet; Redhill v Burnham; Ruislip Manor v Flackwell Heath; Whyteleafe v Haringey Borough; Wolverton v Marlow.

WESTERN LEAGUE: Premier Division: Bideford v Melksham; Clandown v Exmouth; Clevedon v Taunton; Frome v Barnstaple; Minehead v Mangotsfield; Wellington v Bristol Manor Farm; Weston-super-Mare v Plymouth.

Third division
Bolton v Exeter
Brentford v Oxford U
Bristol R v Wimbledon
Burnley v Millwall
Lincoln v Wigan
Orient v Newport
Plymouth v Bournem'th
Preston v Gillingham
Scunthorpe v Bradford C
Sheffield U v Hull
Walsall v Rotherham

Fourth division
Chester v Darlington
Colchester v York
Doncaster v Peterborough
Halifax v Bristol C
Hartlepool v Torquay
Hereford v Wrexham
Mansfield v Bury
Reading v Northampton
Rochdale v Blackpool
Tranmere v Aldershot

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE (11.0) First division: Cambridge United v Portsmouth; Gillingham v Charlton; Ipswich v Orient; Millwall v Fulham; Norwich v Chelsea; Spurs v West Ham; Watford v Southend. Second division: Brighton v Swindon; Bristol v Brentford; Southend v Oxford; West Ham v Reading.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Brentwoods v Malvernians; Carthusians v Chigwellians; Harrovians v Cholmeleians; Lancing O.B. v Bradfieldians. First division: Citizens v Ardinians; Etonians v Aldenhamians; Salopians v Wykehamists; Wellingburians v Westminsters.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Bootle v Glossop; Burscough v Ashton United; Caernarfon Town v Accrington Stanley; Curzon Ashton v Lancaster City; Formby v Radcliffe Borough; Netherfield v Leyland Motors; Prescot Cables v Leek Town; St Helens Town v Penrith; Stalybridge Celtic v Congleton Town.

TOUR MATCH: London University v New England Universities (US at Motspur Park)

HOCKEY

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP (at National Hockey Centre, Willesden) Semi-finals: Middlesex v Hertfordshire (1.45); Cambridgeshire v Yorkshire (3.30).

LONDON LEAGUE (2.45): Premier division: Southgate v Tulse Hill. League: Beckenham v Bromley; Hampstead v Richmond; Hawks v Guildford; Hounslow v St Albans; Maidenhead v Purley; Old Kingstonians v Dulwich; Reading v Mid-Surrey; Slough v Wimbledon.

EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Broxbourne v Ipswich; Westcliff v Long Sutton.

SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division: Anchorians v Indian Gymkhana; Fareham v Folkestone.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH (at Officers' Club Ground, Aldershot, 2.30): Army v Territorial Army.

NETBALL

INTERNATIONAL: Wales v N Ireland (Cardiff, 3.15).

Derbyshire v Berks; Gloucestershire v Kent; Hampshire North v South Yorks; Greater Manchester v South Staffs; Northants v Surrey (3.0); Sussex v Essex Met.

MOTOR CYCLE RACING

SNETTERTON: Clubmans races. All classes. (Practice, 10.0, racing 12.30).

MOTOR RACING

OULTON PARK: Star of tomorrow car races. FF1600, 6T, Saloons. (practice, 9.0, racing 2.0).

ROWING

Boat Race (Putney to Mortlake, 1.0).

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ayr Bruins v Whitley Warriors (7.15); Fife Flyers v Durham Wasps (7.0); Nottingham Panthers v Cleveland Bombers (6.30); Streatham Redskins v Dundee Rockets (1.0). First division: Blackpool Seagulls v Glasgow Dynamos (7.0); Deeside Dragons v Richmond Flyers (6.15).

Scottish Cup
Fifth round
Aberdeen v Dundee U
Motherwell v Celtic

Fifth round, replay
Rangers v Dundee

Scottish Premier division
St Mirren v Hearts

Scottish first division
Airdrie v Kilmarnock
Ayr v Alloa
Clyde v Morton
Dumbarton v Meadowbank
Falkirk v Brechin
Hamilton v Clydebank
Raith v Partick

Second division
Berwick v Arbroath
Cowdenbeath v East Fife
Forfar v Albion
Montrose v E Stirling
Queen of South v Queen's Park
Stirling v Dunfermline
Stranraer v Stenhousemuir

Stewart Robson, the Arsenal midfield player, returns to the squad after an absence of three months for the game at Manchester United today.

RUGBY UNION
INTERNATIONAL MATCHES
England v Wales (at Twickenham)
Scotland v France (at Murrayfield)

CLUB MATCHES
Birkenhead Pk v Harrogate
Camborne v Launceston
Edinburgh A v Boroughmuir (11.30)
Gala v Fylde (1.0)
Glamorgan Wdrs v Nuneaton
Haddington v Melrose (10.30)
Halifax v Gosforth
Hartlepool R v Bradford and Bing
Hawick v Langholm (12.30)
Liverpool v Headingley
London Welsh v Cardiff (11.0)
Loughborough Students v Birmingham
Middlesbough v Otley
Nottingham v London Scottish
Orrell v Gloucester
Richmond v Mosley (12.0)
Rosslyn Park v Aberavon (11.30)
Roundhay v Rugby
Sale v Northampton
Selkirk v Gateshead Fel (10.30)
Sheffield v Northern
Stewart/Mel FP v Glasgow A (11.30)
Vale of Lune v Huddersfield
Wakefield v West Hartlepool
Waterloo v Wilmslow
Watsonians v Dunfermline (11.0)

LACROSSE

NORTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: First division: Mellor v Old Waconians; Old Stopfordians v Sale; Sheffield University v Old Hulmeians; South Manchester & Wythenshawe v Stockport; Urmston v Timperley.

LANCASHIRE CUP: Final: Rochdale v William Hulme's GS (at Timperley LC).

SOUTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE: First division: Purley v Hampstead; Buckhurst Hill v Kenton; Lee v London University.

WOMEN'S HOME INTERNATIONAL: England v Wales (Liverpool CC, 2.45).

Basketball: National Championships: Finals (Wembley 3.45).

Billiards: English Amateur Championship (Widnes Snooker Centre, 11am).

Race Walking: AAA's 10,000 Metres Championship (Birmingham, 2.00).

Rackets: Open Doubles (Queen's Club, West Kensington, 10.45).

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

FOURTH DIVISION: Chesterfield v Torquay United, Swindon Town v Crewe Alexandra.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Hibernian v St Johnstone.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Presidents Cup: Semi-Final – First Leg: Workington v Burton (3.15).

75th ANNIVERSARY MATCH: Hendon v Middlesex Wanderers (3.30).

TOUR MATCH: North London XI v New England Universities (US) (at Winchmore Hill FC).

RUGBY UNION

MIDDLESEX CUP: Final: Harlequins v Wasps (at Harlequins RFC, Stoop Memorial Ground, Craneford Way, Twickenham).

NAT WEST HANTS CUP: Final: Southampton v Havant (at Southampton RFC).

SURREY CUP: Final: KCS OB v Sutton & Epsom (at Streatham-Croydon RFC, Brigstock Rd., Thornton Heath, 3.30).

CORNWALL MERIT TABLE: Camborne v Penryn; Truro v Falmouth.

CLUB MATCHES: London Irish v Northern; Metropolitan Police v Blackheath; Saracens v Bedford.

RUGBY LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION: Castleford v Featherstone Rovers, Hull KR v Salford, Oldham v Warrington, Wakefield Trinity v Bradford Northern, Whitehaven v Leeds, Wigan v Fulham. SECOND DIVISION: Barrow v Carlisle (2.30), Batley v Hunslet, Doncaster v Huddersfield, Halifax v Cardiff City, Kent Invicta v Blackpool Borough, Rochdale Hornets v Dewsbury (3.30), Swinton v Bramley, Workington Town v Huyton (2.00), York v Keighley.

HOCKEY

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP (at the National Hockey Centre, Willesden). Final: Middlesex or Hertfordshire v Cambridgeshire or Yorkshire.

OTHER COUNTY MATCHES (2.45): Berkshire 'A' v Essex 'A' (Maidenhead); Sussex U21 v Essex U21 (Crawley).

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Sussex 'A' v Bandits (Eastbourne).

NORFOLK CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP (at Norwich Exiles H.C.): Final (2.15): Norfolk Wanderers v Norwich Exiles.

SUFFOLK CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP (at Bury St Edmunds H.C): Semi-finals (11.30): Ipswich v Felixstowe; Suffolk Wanderers v Bury St Edmunds. Final at 2.30.

WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT: East Clubs Indoor Championship: Finals (Kelsey Kerridge Indoor Sports Hall, Cambridge)

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ayr Bruins v Fife Flyers (7.15); Durham Wasps v Nottingham Panthers 6.30; Whitley Warriors v Murrayfield Racers 6.30. First division: Altrincham Aces v Glasgow Dynamos (5.30); Peterborough Pirates v Bournemouth Stags (6.45); Richmond Flyers v Southampton Vikings (6.0).

LACROSSE

REGIONAL TROPHY: Southern Counties v Lancashire (at Buckhurst Hill LC); Yorkshire v Cheshire (Charity Match) (at Goodwin Athletic Centre, Sheffield).

BILLIARDS: English Amateur championship (at Widnes Snooker Centre, 11am). Strachan World Professional championship (at Majestic Snooker Centre, Portsmouth, 2pm).

RACKETS: Open Doubles (at Queen's Club, West Kensington, 10am).

REAL TENNIS: George Wimpey Amateur Singles – Qualifying Round at Hampton Court.

HOCKEY

North take the honours

Jenny Dixon, sister of Vickie Dixon, the England and Great Britain sweeper, caused Cheltenham Ladies College's downfall and made Ormskirk Grammar School, the Barclays Bank National Schools under-18 champions yesterday (Joyce Whitehead writes). Both schools from the north carried away the Barclays Bank trophies as Queen Mary's School, Lytham St Anne's, won the under-16 championship.

There was some good goalkeeping. Joanna Henderson, of Tonbridge Girls Grammar School, was outstanding, particularly against Ormskirk, but Miss Dixon's penalty corner hit could not have been stopped by anyone. Cheltenham Ladies College, seeking their third win, started well, beating Chase School (Midlands) 1-0, but then they met Ormskirk, who were more than their match, beating them into second place.

Queen Mary's School, like their seniors, won three matches and played a goalless draw in the fourth.

Middlesex in right mood

By Sydney Friskin

Middlesex enter the last stages of the 1983-84 county championship determined to obliterate an unhappy memory. At Warrington last season they drew 1-1 in the final with Lancashire, who won the match 5-3 on penalty strokes.

The four teams left in the championship converge today on the Willesden Stadium, Donnington Road, London NW10, where the semi-finals will be played on artificial turf. Middlesex will meet Hertfordshire at 1.45pm to be followed at 3.30 by the match between Cambridgeshire and Yorkshire. The final will take place at the same venue tomorrow, starting at 3pm.

David Owen will be in goal for Middlesex and in the absence of Dixon, who is still injured, James Gordon will be in the position of sweeper. Rielly, Potter and Green make up the back three; Precious, Kulbir Bhaura and Eaton the middle three. Charanjit Bhaura, Imtiaz and Manning constitute the three-man front line.

Hertfordshire are fielding the side who beat Cheshire 2-0, which means that Swerling, Hayward and Mobbs will be the three front runners. All three are from St Albans, who supply two more players, Ashby, the captain and right back, and Port as sweeper.

Yorkshire have a young side, whose attack will be led by Pearson, of Huddersfield, with Nick Gordon, from the Combined Services, on his right, and Leach on the left. Their speed and enthusiasm could set the experienced Cambridgeshire defence a few taxing problems. Cattrall, Rowlands and Byas are the mainstays of a solid Yorkshire defence.

There was some doubt about the fitness of Naresh Verma, but Cambridgeshire confirmed yesterday that he is fit to play at right half, alongside Graves, the captain, and the experienced Webber in support. Peter White, Graham and Spiers make up the attack. Middlesex have won the title four times and Hertfordshire on three occasions.

Fees go up, but costs go down

Clubs will now have to pay an affiliation fee of £50 per team in accordance with the decision taken by the Hockey Association at their annual meeting in London yesterday (Sydney Friskin writes). This is an increase of £5 on last year's figure, although last year clubs were also asked to pay a levy of £10 per team.

The clubs will therfore have to pay £5 less overall than they did last year, which does not help in offsetting the deficit of £21,000 for 1984-85 based on the draft budget. The new fee of £50 was proposed by the council of the Hockey Association who had met earlier in the day.

The question of a £1 levy per head to help in the preparation of the England team for the 1986 World Cup tournament was not discussed.

The council also decided to reverse their decision taken in March 1982 and have now agreed to invite the Soviet Union to take part in the London Quadrangular tournament from October 19 to 21.

هكذا من الأصل

RACING: ULVERSTON FIVE-YEAR-OLD GOING FOR EIGHTH CONSECUTIVE WIN IN NEWCASTLE'S HAIG WHISKY FINAL

National is possibility for Carl's Wager

Carl's Wager ran a fine trial for the Seagram Grand National when winning the Mitton Handicap Chase at Wolverhampton yesterday. The nine-year-old, purchased by Michael Dickinson as a potential Liverpool horse from Roger Fisher, won by a length from Laurensun, with whom he was locked together over the three fences in the home straight.

Graham Bradley, a possible partner for Carl's Wager at Aintree, did well to hold his mount together after the combination made a bash of the third last and both the principals were out on their feet on the run-in.

The winner has 10 stone at Aintree on March 31 and his owners are keen to let him take his chance. Monica Dickinson, representing Michael, said: "Ashley House is also very well and runs at Nottingham on Tuesday after which decisions will be made."

Country Agent, Fred Winter's only runner at the meeting, repelled a strong late finish from John O'Neill on Master Silca Key in the second division of the Marston Novices' Hurdle. The winner was ridden by Mark Wilkinson, formerly pupil assistant to Winter at Lambourn. Wilkinson had a few winners for Arthur Moore in Ireland last year and is now assistant to Fulke Johnson Houghton at Blewbury.

Country Agent was saddled up by Winter's son-in-law, Oliver Sherwood, who starts training in his own right in three weeks' time from Richard Head's old yard at Lambourn.

Aonoch has clear chance to extend unbeaten run

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The Haig Whisky Novice Hurdle Final at Newcastle today looks an ideal opportunity for Aonoch, Roger Fisher's smart five-year-old, to win his second valuable prize in eight days and extend his unbeaten record to eight races.

At Chepstow last Saturday he accelerated in fine style towards the end of the Deep Wealth Memorial Hurdle to deprive Penny Bank of the spoils. But for misjudging the last, Aonoch would have won much more easily and with Jimmy Duggan, his very capable young rider, claiming 7lb, the combination will be very hard to beat.

Otherwise, the most intesting aspect of the Newcastle card will be the performance of Bush Guide, a Grand National entry, in the Mercedes-Benz Handicap Chase. Gosforth Park is almost Bush Guide's second home because he has won there four times already. Ridden, as usual, by his owner, Valerie Alder, he is likely to prove hard to catch yet again.

At Chepstow, Royal Judgement will be trying to win the Graham-Reeves Chase for the third year in succession. He may not be quite the force he once was, but he will need to have deterioriated considerably to be beaten over this course and distance by Another Breeze or Armagnac Princess, especially as a fall in the Ritz Club National Hunt Handicap at Cheltenham on Thursday may well have affected Another Breeze's confidence.

Royal Judgement's best performance this season was at Chepstow in December when he was unfortunate to come up against Burrough Hill Lad in the Welsh National. He was giving the Gold Cup winner 12lb and beaten only four lengths. A repetition of that effort would see him run out an easy winner this afternoon.

Sea Pennant, my selection for the Graham-Reeves Handicap Hurdle, ran very well in the Imperial Cup at Sandown a week ago and has the beating of Great Light on that form.

Brian Chinn, the Bristol permit holder, certainly believes in striking while the iron is hot and the Daily Mirror Conditional Jockeys Championship Final at Lingfield will be Mossy Moore's sixth race in five weeks and his second infive days following that admirable win at Cheltenham on Tuesday.

Mossy Moore's record reflects well on both horse and trainer and I expect him to win again provided that he is none the worse for his exertions in the Grand Annual Handicap Steeplechase.

Special Cargo, an extremely popular winner of the Grand Military Gold Cup at Sandown eight days ago, turns out for the St Patrick's Day Handicap Chase. But, with a penalty for that success I doubt if he will manage to give 11lb to Applalto, who finished so fast at Newbury a fortnight ago that he would have beaten Classified in another stride.

No matter how Special Cargo fares, his trainer, Fulke Walwyn, should not leave Lingfield empty-handed as his recent Sandown winner, Chasm, can win the first division of the Bic Razors Novices' Hurdle.

Carved Opal should be another winner for Fred Winter and John Francome in the Steel Plate and Sections Young Chasers qualifier. He has won a steeplechase on this course already this season and more recently he excelled at Chepstow where he won the Aynsley China Cup.

If the saying "horses for courses" means anything, Jade And Diamond must be the one for the Bic Razors Handicap Hurdle. He has five victories at Lingfield to his credit and he ran so well when fourth in the Schweppes Gold Trophy at Newbury and second to Cut A Dash at Fontwell that today's race shold provide him with a sixth.



First leg of a double: Richard Rowe on Simon Legree goes clear at the last in Lingfield's Nutley Novice Chase. Cool Gin (No 10) finished third (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Simon Legree's switch is rewarded

The decision to miss Cheltenham with Simon Legree paid off at Lingfield yesterday when Josh Gifford's course winner gained an easy third success of the season in the Nutley Novices' Chase. Simon Legree was ridden by Richard Rowe, who completed a double on Jack O'Lantern in the Chelsham Handicap Hurdle.

Peter Greenall, a former amateur champion, had his first Lingfield success and brought his career total to 101 on Border Burg in the Gift Horse Novices hunters' chase. Border Burg, following up an impressive winning debut at Leicester, is one of three horses trained by James Delahooke, who has been responsible for buying many of Guy Harwood's Flat stars in recent years. "I hope there'll be a few more in 1984," he said.

John Francome gained a runaway success on Everseal, favourite for the first division Newleaf Novices' Hurdle. Eversal took the lead going up the hill, went clear and came home unchallenged by 20 lengths.

A 1983 winner on the Flat for Gavin Hunter, Everseal has sometimes given the impression in hurdle races that he was not doing his best. But after a string of placed efforts, the gelding certainly put his best foot forward.

Another Lingfield winner who had been troublesome previously was Barrera Lad, whose five-length victory over Strike Lucky in the second division of the novice hurdle foiled Francome's hopes of a double. David Elsworth, the winning trainer, said: "This colt cost £50,000 in Keeneland and was third in the Windsor Castle Stakes, at Royal Ascot."

Champion Hurdle third is sold

Very Promising, third in Tuesday's Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham, has been sold for £75,000 without the knowledge of Mrs Mercy Rimell, his trainer. Mrs Rimell said: "I would lave liked the opportunity to find an owner for him. I may not have found one willing to pay £75,000, but I would have liked to have tried."

Mrs Rimell, who took over the Kinnersley stables when her husband, Fred, died three years ago, said the horse, bought originally for 18,000 guineas by Bob Mann, had been sold to John Maunders and transferred to David Nicholson's Stow-On-The-Wold stable.

Mrs Rimell said: "I only found out about the deal after the last race at Cheltenham. I am very annoyed and upset by the whole thing."

Very Promising is the second good hurdler to be transferred by Mr Maunders from Mrs Rimell to Nicholson. Eastern Line made the switch in January and has since finished fifth in the Schweppes Gold Trophy and won at Haydock.

Today's Point-to-Points

Cambridgeshire at Horscheath (2.0); Cottesmore at Garthorpe (1.0); Gelligare Farmers at Nelson (1.30); Golden Valley at Bredwardine (12.30); Haydon at Corbridge (2.0); Halderness at Dalton Park (2.0); New Forest Buckhounds at Larkhill (1.0); Quantock Staghounds at Williton (1.30); Sir W W Wynn's at Eaton Hall (1); Southdown and Eridge at Parham (1.0); Warwickshire at Mollington (12.30).

Levy rises by three per cent

An increase of "about 3 per cent" in betting levy has been announced by Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary. Mr Brittan said he was convinced bookmakers would be able to make their contributions without increasing deductions from the punter.

Mr Brittan, following a recommendation from the bookmakers' committee, has written to Sir Ian Trethowan, chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board, asking him to start a review of the board and its activities, to see if they were being conducted economically.

Chepstow BBC

[Televised: 1.30, 2.0, 2.35]

GOING: good to soft

1.30 GRAHAM RIVIERA NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (£1,527: 2m) (8 runners)

2 0120 LEADING ARTIST N Gaslee 9-11-11 .... V McKevitt
3 4p2p TEN BEARS (D) T M Jones 8-11-10 .... G Charlie-Jones 7
4 210f GLEN MOY (D) M Barraclough 9-11-1 .... S McNeill
5 1042 DISHCLOTH Lady Susan Brooke 10-11-1 .... M Nuttall
7 1310 REMAINDER IMP A Turnell 7-10-8 .... Steve Knight
8 03p2 DENNIS AUBURN R Francis 7-10-7 .... R Crank
9 2400 GRAGARA LAD (R Hodges 9-10-6 .... R Linley
11 0230 SILENT FLIER W R Williams 10-10-0 .... –

1983: Kings Singer 9-10-0 P Hobbs (11-4 jt fav) J Jewell, 7 ran.

3.5 HARE AND HOUNDS NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £1,058: 3m) (20)

3 0041 GOLDEN MINSTREL J Gifford 5-11-10 .... R Rowe
6 1003 PARISH RIGGED T Forster 5-11-10 .... Mr R Dunwoody 4
7 004T RHYME 'N' REASON (D) M Dickinson 5-11-10 .... G Bradley
8 4000 ARCTIC MARINER W G Turner 6-11-5 .... Mr W Turner
9 10p0 AUTUMN GIFT W Jenks 5-11-5 .... R Crank
12 00 ERICA'S GENERAL J Brooks 6-11-5 .... –
13 0300 FAIR PATRICK D Tucker 5-11-5 .... P Stone 7
19 p002 PRINCE BUSKINS R Frost 9-11-5 .... J Frost
20 000-0 REDDOWN H Haynes 6-11-5 .... –
21 00-00 SCHEMING W Price 6-11-5 .... N Coleman 7
23 0400 ST DAVID'S DAY B Palling 6-11-5 .... C Evans 7
24 10p0 TROLL LADY D Carey 7-11-5 .... M Williams
25 4pf ARCTIC GIPSY B Palling 6-11-0 .... A Griffiths 4
26 3403 BALLYCLORAN LASS Mrs S Davenport 6-11-0 .... R Linley
27 0034- CWM VALLEY N Down 8-11-0 .... Mr C Down

Lingfield results

Going: Good

2.0 NEWLEAF NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o: £548: 2m)

EVERSEAL ch g by Patch – Dunstells (Mrs D Beddington) 11-0 .... J Francome (13-8 fav) 1
Martial Commander .... R Rowe (13-2) 2
Pacifist .... S Jobar (5-2) 3

TOTE: Win: £2.60. Places: £1.10, £1.20,

Newcastle ITV

[Televised: 2.15, 2.45]

GOING: good to soft

1.45 HARTBURN NOVICE HUNTER CHASE (amateurs: £782: 3m) (12 runners)

1 0/44-00 CALDWELL CASE (R Swiers) R Swiers 7-11-7 .... –
2 0p/303- GALLEUM (Mrs T Donaldson) Mrs T Donaldson 7-11-7 .... T Reed 7
3 JUST BILLY (J Alder) J Alder 7-11-7 .... Miss V Alder 7
4 /030-4p KIKORI (R Bethell) R Bethell 9-11-7 .... W Bethell 7
5 MARITZ (D Williamson) D Williamson 8-11-7 .... –
6 00p/f0- MIRAQUEST (P King) P King 8-11-7 .... R King 7
7 2p-2 PANEGYRIST (C Alexander) C Alexander 9-11-7 .... A Dudgeon 7

11-8 Panegyrist,

2.45 HAIG WHISKY NOVICE HURDLE FINAL HANDICAP (£7,752: 2m 120yd) (9)

1 1111 AONOCH (C,D) (Mrs E Duggan) R Fisher 5-12-0 (5 ex) .... J Duggan 7
2 34-1220 EMPEROR CHARLES (BF) (R E A Bott) F Winter 7-11-10 .... B De Haan
4 0-1f213 TEPYLON (BF) (G Hoolahan) M Lambert 5-11-1 .... P A Charlton
5 211100 GROCKLE (Mrs B Gittins) D Barons 7-10-12 .... J J O'Neill
7 4-11100 COLONEL ROSE (T Goldie) T Goldie 7-10-7 .... Mr J M Dun 7
8 111200 GOLDEN FANCY (Northumbria Leisure) I Vickers 7-10-6 .... R Lamb
11 941342 SUPER TEK (J Howgego) B Wise 6-10-4 .... R Rowell
13 401 ECHO SOUNDER (Lady Vestey) D Nicholson 5-10-1 .... P Scudamore
15 200420 POLLY'S PAL (S Payne) S Payne 5-10-0 .... A Stringer

4-7 Aonoch, 9-2 Echo Sounder, 8 Emperor Charles, 12 Grockle, 14 Tepylon, 16 Colonel Rose, 20 others.

5-4 Grinders, 5-2 Indian Maize, 7-2 Gearys Cold Rolled, 8 Heron's Reflection, 16 others.

4.15 BELFORD NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £908: 2m 120yd) (8)

2 0p-310 WOLD RAT (C,D) (BF) (G Stephenson) J Fitzgerald 5-11-2 .... R O'Leary
3 040-0 ANVIL LARK (D Eames) M Reddan 6-11-2 .... D Nolan
4 0443 BETTABET GERAGHTY (M F Geraghty) Miss S Hall 5-11-2 .... J Duggan
7 00 MR CHRIS (CDL 44 Foods) M Naughton 5-11-2 .... J J O'Neill
8 0 MR PERFECT (Mrs J Musgrave) B Wilkinson 5-11-2 .... C Grant
13- YES SIR YOU SIR (Mrs M Anthony) D Moorhead 5-11-2 .... Ruth Hargreaves 7
14 30331 THE MAN HIMSELF (E Briggs) G Richards 4-10-13 .... N Doughty
19 43 SNOWY RIVER (Duke of Northumberland) R Peacock 4-10-8 .... T G Dun

11-4 The Man Himself, 3 Bettabet Geraghty, 4 Wold Rat, 6 Snowy River, 8 Anvil Lark, 14 others.

Newcastle selections

By Michael Phillips

1.45 Kikori. 2.15 Bush Guide. 2.45 Aonoch. 3.15 Thorbell Arch. 3.45 Grinders. 4.15 The Man Himself.

Chepstow selections

By Michael Phillips

1.30 Leading Artist. 2.0 Royal Judgement. 2.35 Sea Pennant. 3.5 Rhyme 'N' Reason. 3.35 Memberson. 4.5 Steel Yeoman. 4.35 Sommelier.

Uttoxeter selections

2.15 Lance Of St George. 2.45 Royal Mere. 3.15 Bois Rouge. 3.45 Little Polveir. 4.15 Nudge Nudge. 4.45 Greenore Pride.

● Robert Chapman, apprenticed to Fulke Walwyn, can start packing his bags for a month's summer riding trip in France and America. Even before today's Lingfield final of the Daily Mirror Conditional Jockeys Championship, Chapman is in an unassailable position.

● The Tote's on-course cash turnover at the Cheltenham Festival was a record £1,328,358, 19.4 per cent up on 1983.

● Michael Dickinson completed a short-priced double with Last Deal and Cheers at Fakenham yesterday.

Lingfield Park ITV

4.30 BIC RAZORS NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £548: 2m) (11)

607 042 HAZY SUNSET (C Cronin) F Winter 7-11-2 .... J Francome
610 00004 NOVEMBER RAIN (Mrs J Ramsay) D Oughton 6-11-2 .... P Double
611 00000 SHOOTING BUTTS (B) (T Bell) C Read 6-11-2 .... J Hughes 4
612 20003 SIR KENWIN (J Winterbourne) R Armytage 6-11-2 .... A Webber
618 024 TUDOR JESTER (Mrs E Boucher) J Gifford 5-11-0 .... Peter Hobbs 4
619 P ARMAGNAC SURPRISE (R Jones) P Haynes 5-10-9 .... P Corrigan 7

1983: Readmace 5-11-0 C Kinane 2-1 (fav) C Read 11 ran.

7-4 Hazy Sunset, 11-4 Tudor Jester, 4 Golden Brigadier, 6 Sir Kenwin, 10 Shooting Butts, 16 November Rain, 20 others.

Lingfield selections

By Michael Phillips

2.0 Carved Opal. 2.30 Mossy Moore. 3.0 Jade And Diamond. 3.30 Chasm. 4.0 Applalto. 4.30 Hazy Sunset.



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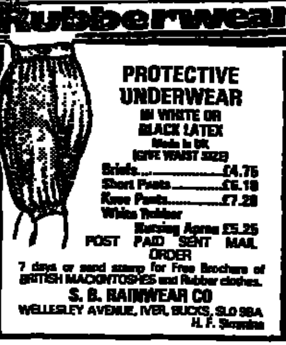
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Continued from page 13

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TELEVISION
Sunday's Variations
(from facing page)

BBC 1 Wales 4.10-5.10 pm Sports Line-up. 10.25-11.05 Chris Stuart Cha Cha Chat Show. 11.05-11.45 Heart of the Matter. 11.45-12.15 am Join International Darts on BBC 1. 12.15-12.40 The World of Cooking. 12.40 News. **Scotland** 1.00-1.25 pm Landward. 1.25-1.50 Taking Stock. 6.40-7.15 Glory Be. 10.25-11.15 Mr Speaker, Sir! 11.15-11.50 Ecclesiastes. 11.50 Join International Darts. 12.15 am Scottish news. **Northern Ireland** 5.10-5.40 pm More a Way of Life. 12.15 am Northern Ireland news.

S4C Starts 2.15 pm Ffermwyr. 2.25 Black on Black. 3.20 Enthusiasts. 3.45 Diverse Reports. 4.15 Wish You Were Here. 4.40 Mama Malone. 5.10 Documentary. 6.15 Volleyball. 7.15 Wil Cwac Cwac. 7.20 Newddion. 7.25 Apel S4C. 7.30 Hafod Henri. 8.00 Rhaglen Hywel Gwynfryn. 8.50 Dechrau Canu, Dechrau Canmol. 9.20 World at War. 10.15 Film: They Drive by Night (George Raft). 11.45 Seven Days. 12.15 am Closedown

CHANNEL As London except: Starts 1.56 pm-2.00 Starting Point. 2.30-4.30 Big Match. 3.15 Mumbly Show. 3.30-4.30 Chips. 5.30-6.30 Battlestar Galatica. 11.30 Comedy Tonight. 12.00 Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 9.25 am Professor Kitzel. 9.30-10.00 About Britain. 11.30-12.00 Me and My Camera. 1.00 pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Here and Now. 2.30 Big Match. 3.15-4.30 Film: An Honourable Murder (Norman Woodland). 5.30-6.30 Return of the Saint. 11.30 Jazz.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 9.25am Adventures of Parsley. 9.30-10.00 Sport Billy. 11.30-12.00 Me and My Camera. 1.00pm University Challenge. 1.30-2.00 Farming Outlook. 2.30 Curling. 3.30 Return of the Saint. 4.30 Scotsport. 5.30 Bullseye. 6.00-6.30 Jack Holborn. 11.30 World of James Mitchener. 12.30am Reflections.

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SUNDAY WORLD SERVICE

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Saturday — Television and radio programmes — Sunday

Edited by Peter Davalle

Saturday

BBC 1

6.20 Open University: until 8.25; 8.35 **Godzilla:** fantastic cartoon; 9.00 **Saturday SuperStore:** the programme's SuperStar contest winner is announced. In the studio: the new Dr Who – Colin Baker. Appearances, too, by Nicola Bryant, who plays Dr Who's assistant Peri, and by the pop band called Icicle Works.

12.15 Grandstand. The line-up is: 12.20 Football Focus; 12.45 News; 12.50 Ladbroke University Boat Race; Oxford bid for their ninth successive victory. Harry Carpenter and Penny Chuter are the commentators. This is the 155th time the Boat Race will have been held. 1.30 Racing (from Chepstow); 1.40 Boxing (action from Wembley); 1.55 Racing (Graham-Reeves Steeplechase, at Chepstow); 2.10 Rugby Union preview: profile of Jean-Pierre Rives; 2.30 Racing (from Chepstow); 2.40 Rugby Union preview.

3.00 International Rugby Union: Scotland v France, at Murrayfield. And England v Wales, at Twickenham: 4.45 Cricket: Second day's play in the Second Test between Pakistan and England; 4.50 Final scores.

5.10 Anything Goes: Farmers from Malton Mowbray and Cockermouth battle for supremacy as they compete in crazy games in the ring at Blackpool Tower Circus.

5.50 News: with Jan Leeming; 6.00 Sports round-up.

6.05 Jim'll Fix It: Jimmy Savile makes more dreams come true.

6.40 Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em: with Michael Crawford as the disastrous Frank Spencer (r).

7.15 Film: Hannibal Brooks (1968). One of Michael Winner's more winning films, this is a Second World War comedy drama with Oliver Reed as an escaping British PoW who journeys through the Swiss Alps with an elephant. With Michael J. Pollard.

8.55 News: and sports round-up.

9.10 Driving Ambition: Episode 3 (of eight). The husbands begin to play too big a role in their wives' racing car venture as work on rebuilding the Mini continues. Rosemary Martin and Anne Carroll play the wives; Mark Kingston and Donald Gee the husbands. (Ceefax sub-titles, page 170).

10.00 Wogan: Terry Wogan's studio guests are film star Shelley Winters; Stephanie Lawrence, the singing star; Bob Monkhouse; and Terry Venables.

10.50 James Last in Tralee: Irish songs and jigs, recorded at the Rose of Tralee Festival in County Kerry.

11.25 Late Night Horror: The Mephisto Waltz (1971). Journalist Alan Alda assumes a famous concert pianist's sexual and musical powers after being granted a final interview with the dying virtuoso. Yet another variation on the balck magic theme, with Jacqueline Bissett as the journalist's wife and Barbara Parkins as the pianist's daughter. With Curt Jurgens and Bradford Dillman. Directed by Paul Wendkos.

1.10 Weather for Sunday.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain: with Henry Kelly, Toni Arthur. News at 7.00 and 8.00, sport (7.10), George Best (7.15). Plus celebrity guests and Rustie Lee's cookery item.

8.40 Data Run: includes a training session with Watford FC. Musical guests: the Thompson Twins. Plus cartoons etc.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 LWT Information: what's on, locally; 9.30 **The Smurfs:** cartoon; 10.00 **The Spinning Wheel:** cartoon version of Sinead de Valera's The Verdant Valley: it is the story of young Donal who set out to find the beautiful Etian who has disappeared in mysterious circumstances. 10.30 **The Saturday Show:** Music, cartoons, sporting items – and many reminders that this is St Patrick's Day. Guests include Zu Zu Sharks.

12.15 World of Sport. The line-up is: – 12.20 World Ski-ing (Men's Downhill, from Mount Whistler, British Columbia); 12.35 Figure Skating (World Championship Preview); 12.45 News; 12.50 On the Ball: football round-up; 1.20 The ITV Seven: From Harringay, the 1.33 and 1.51; from Lingfield, the 2.00, 2.30 and 3.00; from Newcastle, the 2.15.

3.10 Ice Hockey: Streatham versus Dundee (Heineken Premier League) from Streatham; 3.45 Half-time results; 4.00 Wrestling: two bouts from Derby; 4.45 Results service.

5.00 News from ITN: 5.05 **Fraggle Rock:** The puppets who live underneath a lighthouse; 5.35 **Whiz Kids:** A talking computer, plus human assistants, versus some bank embezzlers.

6.30 Child's Play: Una Stubbs and Tommy Boyd are the celebrity guests. The contestants: architect Niall Nelson, and part-time secretary Tina Hampson. Michael Aspel presents the show. Children taking part are from schools in Dorchester, Ottery St Mary, Stogursey, Kirkintilloch, Stevenage, Wembley, Spaxton, Sheen, Pontypool, Worcester, Sandy, Newcastle, and South Queensferry.

7.00 3-2-1: Venice provides the theme in tonight's game show. The guests include the Rondo Veneziano and Renee and Renato.

8.00 T J Hooker: A teenager, running away, is lured into prostitution – and dies.

9.00 News: and sports round-up.

9.15 Film: Ashanti (1979) Rumours of a modern-day slave trade after a WHO doctor, working in an African village, disappears. With Michael Caine, Peter Ustinov, Omar Sharif, Rex Harrison and William Holden. Directed by Richard Fleischer.

11.25 London news headlines. Followed by:- 9 to 5: Office-life comedy. Judy and Dorslee discover that they are both dating the same man. With Rita Moreno and Valerie Curtin.

11.55 Rock Concert: Sad Cafe at the Victoria Palace, London. Their hits include I Believe and Love will survive. Followed by the Night Thoughts of Rabbi Julia Neuberger. Followed by Closedown.



Roy Plomley with the head chef of the Ritz hotel, London, Michael Quinn: Desert Island Discs (Radio 4, 6.25pm)

BBC 2

6.25 Open University (until 2.45). Begins with crust and mantle of the Earth; and ends (starts 2.20) with Migration from a Turkish village. 2.45 Interval.

2.50 Rugby Union: Live coverage of the England versus Wales clash at Twickenham (this replaces the earlier scheduled transmission of Lon Chaney in the Phantom of the Opera). Commentary by Nigel Starmer-Smith and Gareth Edwards.

4.30 The Sky at Night: Venus Unveiled. Dr Peter Cattermole of Sheffield University talks to Patrick Moore about the remarkable space probe pictures (r).

4.50 Film: The Importance of Being Earnest (1952) Wholly satisfactory film version of Oscar Wilde's famous stage play with Michael Redgrave and Michael Denison as Jack and Algernon, Dorothy Tutin and Joan Greenwood as Cecily and Gwendolen, Edith Evans as Lady Bracknell ("A hand-bag?") and Margaret Rutherford as Miss Prism. Director: Anthony Asquith.

6.25 Open University: Modern Art – Pissarro.

6.50 Sight and Sound in Concert: Marillion on stage at Chippenham (also on Radio 1, in stereo); 7.30 **News.** And sports-round up.

7.50 International Rugby Union: The best of the action in today's Scotland v France, and England v Wales clashes.

8.55 Masterclass: Repeat of all five programmes, first seen 10 years ago, in which Paul Tortelier helps two cello students to master works such as Brahms's Sonata in F major (r).

9.40 The Light of Experience Revisited: Bel Mooney talks to the psychoanalyist Ean Begg.

10.00 C P Snow's Strangers and Brothers: A second chance to see episode 10 (three more to come). Lewis is reunited with Margaret Davidsen (Cherie Lunghi), now married (r). 10.55 **News:** with Jan Leeming.

11.00 Film: Violette Nozière (1977) Claude Chabrol's reconstruction of a murder case of half a century ago stars Isabelle Huppert as the 18-year-old who begins by robbing her parents and ends up as blackmailer, prostitute and murderess. Chabrol claimed that while making the film, he "fell in love" with Violette Noziere, fascinated by her ambiguities. With Stephane Audran and Jean Carmet. In French, with English sub-titles. Ends at 1.05.

CHANNEL 4

1.45 Mothers by Daughters: Barbara Windsor's stormy relationship with her late mother. The interviewer: Bel Mooney (r).

2.25 Film: Arrowsmith (1931*). Ronald Coleman gives up his comfortable medical practice to look for a cure for bubonic plague in the West Indies. This film of Sinclair Lewis's novel was directed by John Ford. It co-stars Helen Hayes and Myrna Loy.

4.10 Dr Seuss on the Loose: Cartoon about an audacious cat, created by Theodor Geisel.

4.35 Mama Malone: American comedy series with Lila Kaye as the television cook whose family pepper her life with problems.

5.05 Brookside: two repeated episodes.

6.00 Union World: Actors reconstruct the Dorset story of the Tolpuddle Martyrs who helped to shape the trade union movement back in 1834.

6.25 News headlines. And weather forecast. Followed by:- **The Other Side of the Tracks:** Featuring new bands such as Australian Crawl, De Barge and Nena. Plus the world of record producer Jerry Wexler.

7.30 Basketball – the Wimpey Homes National Championships: from Wembley Arena. It's the night of the final. Solent are the favourites.

9.30 An Audience with Joan Rivers: She is possibly America's most outrageous comedienne. Certainly, very little is sacred to her. She faces an audience in LWT's studios. There is a liberal sprinkling of famous faces representing show business, Fleet Street, and the world of fashion.

10.30 The Comic Strip Presents: The Beat Generation: What happens when a weekend hipster invites a group of angry young men, armed poets and underground celebrities to his father's country house (r).

11.10 Film: They Drive by Night (1940*) Drama about America's truck drivers. George Raft and Humphrey Bogart play the brothers who operate a transport business. They become embroiled in a world of violence, adultery and murder. Also starring Ann Sheridan, Ida Lupino and Alan Hale. Directed by that prolific director of Warner Brothers successes, Raoul Walsh. Ends at 12.55.

Radio 4

6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 News; Farming today. 6.55 Weather; Travel; Programme News.
7.00 News. 7.10 Today's Papers. 7.15 On Your Farm. 7.45 In Perspective. 7.50 It's a bargain. 7.55 Weather.
8.00 News. 8.10 Today's Papers.
8.15 Sport on 4. 8.48 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather; Travel. 9.00 News.
9.05 Breakaway. Bernard Falk with holiday, travel and leisure.
9.50 News Stand.
10.05 The Week in Westminster.
10.30 Daily Service. †
10.45 Pick of the Week. †
11.35 From our own correspondent.
12.00 News; Money box. How the Budget will affect you.
12.27 The News Quiz. 12.55 Weather.
1.00 News.
1.10 Any questions? from Loughton, Essex. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 News.
2.05 Thirty-minute theatre 'Mother and Daughter, by Graham Swannell. With Joanna David and Avril Elgar as the daughter and mother.
2.35 Medicine now.
3.05 Wildlife.
3.30 Home-ing in. Tips and techniques to help you save time and money if you do-it-yourself.
4.00 News; Radio News Special Report.
4.30 Does He Take Sugar? Magazine for the disabled.
5.00 The Chip Shop (s) with Barry Norman direct from Silicon Valley, California.
5.25 Week Ending†. 5.50 Shipping. 5.55 Weather.
6.00 News; Sports Round-up.
6.25 Desert Island Discs. Chef Michael Quinn†.
7.05 Stop the Week with Robert Robinson†.
7.45 Baker's Dozen with Richard Baker†.
8.30 Saturday-Night Theatre 'Inspector Ghote Hunts the Peacock' By Geoffrey M Matthews, based on the novel by H R F Keating. Sam Dastor plays the Bombay CID inspector, paying his first visit to England.
10.00 News.
10.15 Kaleidoscope in Ireland. Paul Vaughan visits Ireland on St Patrick's day.
11.00 Lighten our Darkness.
11.15 Animal Language. Sound communications in animals, narrated by David Attenborough. (12) Danger!
11.45 Angus McDermid in the BBC Sound Archives.
12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Shipping. 12.23-12.28 The Chip Shop with Barry Norman.

Radio 3

7.55 Weather. 8.00 News.
8.05 Aubade: Includes Chapi's prelude El Tambor de Granaderos; Wu Tsu-Chiang's Conc for pipa and orchestra; Massenet's suite Le Cid.† 9.00 News.
9.05 Record Review: The best buy in records of Britten's Variations on a theme of Frank Bridge.†
10.15 Stereo Release: New recordings of works by Liszt and Mendelssohn (Octet).†
11.40 BBC Phil Orch: with David Wilde (piano). Brahm's Tragic Overture and Strauss's Death and Transfiguration.† 1.00 News.
1.05 Wolfgang Manz: piano recital. Works by Mozart, Beethoven (Sonata Op 2 No 3) and Slavicky (Three Pieces, 1949).†
2.00 Dreamers of Dreams: a programme of fugues, psalms and double concertos. Includes Elgar's Introduction and Allegro; Holst's Two Psalms and Delius's Double Concerto (Menuhin/Tortelier).†
4.00 Baroque Recorder Music: Works by Lotti, Buononcini and Handel, played by Ferdinand Conrad, Sabine Mielke and Alastair Ross.†
4.30 Brahms Violin Sonatas: Sonata No 1 in G Op 78 (Mutter/Weissenberg).†
5.00 Jazz Record Requests: with Peter Clayton.
5.45 Critics' Forum: with Margaret Walters, Waldemar Januszczak and Bryan Magee, and Anthony Thwaite. Includes comment on Henry James's The Aspern Papers, in London, and Hitchcock's re-issued Vertigo.
6.35 Through a Beloved Country: Heinz Zednik (tenor) with Konrad Leitner (piano) perform Ernst Krenek's Travel diary from the Austrian Alps Op 62.†
7.45 Tchaikovsky: LSO concert with Mischa Maisky (cello). Part one. Symphony No 3.†
8.30 City Faces: Mark Girouard, the architectural writer, on Bruges.
8.50 Tchaikovsky: Concert – part two. Variations on a Rococo Theme; and the Fantasy Francesca da Rimini.†
10.00 Scriabin: Ian Lake (piano) plays the Twenty-four Preludes Op 11.†
10.40 She Used to Like Waltzes: Kenneth Cranham reads the short story by Jack Trevor Story.
10.50 Lassus: various works,
11.15 News. Until 11.18.
VHF only: Open University: 6.55 am-7.55 and 11.20 pm to 12.00. Medium Wave: 7.30 am-11.40: Cricket: Pakistan versus England

Radio 2

4.00am Martin Stanford.† 6.00 Sheila Tracy†incl 6.03 Cricket. 7.50 Racing. 8.05 David Jacobs†incl 9.02 Cricket. 10.00 Album Time†incl 10.02 Cricket. 11.00 Album Time†incl (continued on VHF only until 1.00pm. 11.02 Cricket. 12.02 Cricket. 12.30 Sport on 2 incl Boat Race. Rugby Union: England v Wales and Scotland v France. Cricket: Pakistan v England. 6.00 Folk on 2. 7.00 Jazz Score. 7.30 Saturday Gala Night. BBC Radio Orchestra with guests Ralph McTell, Patti Boulaye, Gerard Kenny. 8.10-8.30 Interval. 9.30 Knokke Cup.† 10.02 Sports Desk. 10.05 National Rehearsal Band Competition. All-winners concert.† 11.00 Ken Bruce† 1.00am Peter Dickson presents Nightride.† 3.00-4.00 Wally Whyton

Radio 1

6.00am Mark Page. 8.00 Tony Blackburn's Saturday Show. 10.00 Dave Lee Travis. 1.00pm Hitsville USA. 2.00 Paul Gambaccini. 4.00 Saturday Live.† 6.20 In Concert featuring Y.N.T.† 6.50 Sight and Sound in Concert featuring Marillion.†(A simultanious broadcast with BBC2). 7.30 Janice Long. 10.00-12.00 Gary Davies. VHF Radios 1 and 2: 4.00am With Radio 2. 12.30-1.30pm Album Time.† 1.00 With Radio 1. 7.30-4.00am With Radio 2.

World Service, facing page

Sunday

BBC 1

6.20 Open University (until 8.50); 9.00 **Mr Bean:** non-political fun for toddlers; 9.15 **Sunday Worship:** with the Rev Brian Duckworth; 10.00 **Asian Magazine:** Billy – a Walsall van driver with a burning desire to be an impressionist; 10.30 **Play It Safe!** with Jimmy Savile (r); 10.40 **Maths Help:** matrices (r); 10.55 **Languages for Life:** Bengali version of the film *Languages for Life*; 11.20 **Technical Studies:** non-ferrous metals, alloys (r); 11.45 **Madhur Jaffrey's Indian Cookery Course:** Tandoori Prawns (r).

12.10 Use Your Head: how to improve your memory (r); 12.35 **Computers in Control;** 1.00 **Farming;** 1.25 **Letting Go:** Independence and the teenager (r); 1.50 **News.**

1.55 International Darts: England v Wales in the Arrow Chemicals Championship in Warrington.

2.25 Film: The Wreck of the Mary Deare (1959) Two men – Gary Cooper and Charlton Heston – become involved in an attempt to expose a sabotage plot involving a freighter that is found abandoned. With Michael Redgrave. Director: Michael Anderson.

4.10 International Darts: more from Warrington.

5.10 It Ain't Half Hot, Mum: (Ceefax sub-titles, page 170) Jungle concert party comedy series. With Windsor Davies and Melvyn Hayes (r); 5.40 **News.**

5.50 Holiday: Villa holidays in Portugal; a wine tour of France's Loire Valley; and a stay in a health farm in Liphook, Hampshire.

6.25 Streetwise: Self-defence tips for women, from Sarah Kennedy.

6.35 Judith Hann: appeal on behalf of Televisions for the Deaf Fund.

6.40 Songs of Praise: from the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption, Newcastle, Co Down. (Ceefax sub-titles, page 170).

7.15 One by One: Zoo vet series, with Joan Greenwood as an eccentric millionairess living in seclusion with a pet monkey.

8.05 Mastermind: the specialized subjects are: the British coastline; Great Eastern Railway 1862-1922; Duke of Windsor's life; the Austrian Hapsburgs 1740-1792. Tonight's programme comes from the Great Hall at Avery Hill College in London. The four contestants are a physician, publisher's editor, lecturer, and company director.

8.40 Dynasty: A deranged Claudia is taken to the sanitorium.

9.25 That's Life: with Esther Rantzen and Co. 10.10 **News.**

10.25 Heart of the Matter: The crossing of a road in Limavady, Northern Ireland, that led to the Rev David Armstrongs' being censured by his church elders.

11.00 The World of Cooking: Dishes of the Grenoble province of Dauphinā, including trout prepared with almond paste and a dessert prepared with the local liqueur, green Chartreuse.

11.25 International Darts: England v Wales in the Arrow Chemicals Championship; 12.15 Weather.

TV-am

7.25 Good Morning Britain: with David Frost who introduces today's Thought for A Sunday speaker.

7.30 Rub-a-Dub-Tub: stories, cartoons etc for the youngsters.

8.30 Good Morning Britain: News (8.30, Sport (8.30), Sunday papers (8.40), David Frost interview (8.55).

ITV/LONDON

9.25 LWT Information: what's on locally; 9.30 **Me and My Camera:** Photographing townscapes. With David Bailey (r); 10.00 **Morning Worship:** from The High Kirk, Dundee; 11.00 **Link:** The socially suffocating condition known as agoraphobia, 11.30 **Crafts Made Simple:** modelling in Plasticine.

12.00 Weekend World: with Brian Walden. An interview with the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, on the eve of the Brussels summit.

1.00 Police 5: with the Yard's unofficial mouthpiece, Shaw Taylor.

1.15 The Big Match: Action from two of yesterday's football matches, First and Second Divisions.

2.00 Encounter: A film about June Osborne, a deaconess at St Martin's in Birmingham's Bullring. She is also chaplain to a children's hospital; 2.30 **London news.** Followed by: **Film: The Magnificent Seven Deadly Sins** (1971) Seven separate stories of varying degrees of comicality, notable more for their cast (Harry Secombe, Ian Carmichael, Bruce Forsyth, Leslie Phillips, Harry H Corbett etc) than their content. The director is the comedian Graham Stark.

4.30 Jack Holborn: Nineteenth-century drama serial, starring Patrick Bach. 5.00 **Bullseye:** Darts and general knowledge game, with Jim Bowen.

5.30 Sunday Sunday: Showbusiness chat show, with Gloria Hunniford. The guests are Max Bygraves, the comedy actress Su Pollard and Bill Wyman. The critics' choice guests are Rula Lenska and Michael Palin. 6.30 **News.**

6.40 Highway: Harry Secombe visits Downpatrick, Northern Ireland.

7.15 Family Fortunes: The Walkers from Arundel versus the Otters from Northallerton.

7.45 Live from Her Majesty's: Variety show, with Danny La Rue,, David Brenner, Jimmy Cricket; Neil Sedaka; Brenda Lee, David Essex and Grace Kennedy. 8.45 **News.**

9.00 The Professionals: A phone call from the only Maiden Lane robber still at liberty (r).

10.00 Spitting Image: Life-size-puppet comedy show, with a markedly political slant.

10.30 The South Bank Show: Melvyn Bragg's tribute to the 81-year-old Chilean pianist Claudio Arrau.

11.30 London news headlines. Followed by: **The Protectors:** A girl tries to kill Harry Rule (Robert Vaughn) for putting her father behind bars. Followed by Rabbi Julia Neuberger's **Night Thoughts,** and **Closedown.**



Claudio Arrau: distinguished Chilean pianist, now 81, is the subject of tonight's South Bank Show film (ITV, 10.30pm)

BBC 2

6.25 Open University (until 1.55, when there are pages from Ceefax)

2.10 Southern Drift: the North-Eastern traditions in the Kent coalfield.

2.40 The Life of an Honest Man: Part two of this French TV drama serial about the life of Molière. Starring Philippe Caubère (r).

3.35 Film: The River (1950) Jean Renoir's oft-forgotten film about the adolescent rivalry between three girls from a small English community in India. With Adrienne Corri, Paticia Walters, Radha, Nora Swinburne and Esmond Knight.

5.10 Wales! Wales? The strife in the Welsh valleys during the 1920s and 1930s, superbly caught in the poems of Idris Davies. Kenneth Griffith reads them.

6.00 News Review: with Jan Leeming and sub-titles.

6.30 The Money Programme: Gold mining in the Welsh valleys, and what Britain could learn from America's telephone revolution.

7.15 International Pro-Celebrity Golf: Greg Norman and Christopher Lee take on Tom Watson and Henry Kelly.

8.05 One Pair of Eyes: Nationality Uncertain: The title refers to the predicament of Zdena Tomin, human rights spokeswoman in Czechoslovakia, who came to Britain with her husband and two sons in 1970. They have been deprived of their Czech citizenship and cannot return home.

8.40 All the World's a Stage: The chaotic delights of the Restoration theatre in Britain. We see sequences from, inter alia, *The Way of the World, The Relapse* and *The Country Wife.* With Sara Kestelman, Michael Hordern, Edward Hardwicke, Ronald Pickup. (Ceefax titles page 270)

9.35 Did You See. . . .? Ludovic Kennedy, Kay Carmichael, "Miss Read" and Robert Hewison discuss *Country of an Edwardian Lady* (ITV), *Brass Tacks* (BBC2) and *Desert of Lies* (BBC1). Also an item on television critics.

10.25 Australian Cinema: Long Weekend (1977) A couple try to save their failing marriage by going back to nature. The weekend becomes a fight for survival. With John Hargreaves, Briony Behets. Director: Colin Eggleston. Ends at 12.05am.

CHANNEL 4

1.25 The Making of Britain: The light that present knowledge sheds on the Dark Ages.

1.50 Irish Angle: Informed comment from either north or south of the border.

2.15 Gala from the Met: Part one of a sequence of operatic highlights (part 2 on April 8) from the centenary year celebrations held at the Met in New York, last October. Stars include Kiri Te Kanawa, Joan Sutherland, Frederica von Stade, Elisabeth Soederstroem, James McCracken, Mirella Freni, and Placido Domingo. The operas featured today are The marriage of Figaro, Semiramide, Otello and Strauss's Der Rosenkavalier.

4.15 Jack's Game: Jack Charlton joins a grouse-shooting party on the Lancashire moors.

4.45 Anything We Can Do: Home computers – and new technology in the home. Real-life situations, re-created by actors.

5.15 News headlines. Weather. Followed by: **7 Days:** Moral and religious issues in the public eye.

5.45 Where in the World: Quiz show about travel, with John Carter and John Julius Norwich as team captains. Rest of the players: Stephen Danos, Kenneth Kendall, Chris Kelly and Jill Crawshaw.

6.15 International Volleyball: Women players from the US versus women players from Cuba. Also a report on the China v West Germany match.

7.15 The World at War: Part 22 (of 26): Japan's leaders sense that their nation is doomed – but nobody is told. And there is an invasion threat (r).

8.15 Jewel in the Crown: Episode 11 (of 14). With Colonel Layton's approval, Merrick (Tim Piggott-Smith) is about to be engaged to Susan (Wendy Morgan). (Oracle sub-titles, page 470).

9.15 Two Faces of Thailand: A Musical Portrait. A king's traditional birthday celebrations; and the fantastic "Luk Tung" country music with its Western-style showbusiness flamboyamce. Also the secret melodies that call down the spirits of the dead.

10.15 Film: If I Were King (1938*) Ronald Colman as the 15th century poet Francois Villon who saves Paris from invaders. Later filmed as The Vagabond King (with Oreste, in 1956). With Basil Rathbone, Ellen Drew. Directed by Frank Lloyd. Ends at 12.10.

Radio 4

6.25 Shipping.
6.30 News; Morning Has Broken. 6.55 Weather; Travel; Programme News. 7.00 News. 7.10 Sunday Paprs. 7.55 Apna Hi Ghar Samajhiye. 7.45 Bells. 7.50 Turning Over New Leaves.
8.00 News. 8.10 Sunday Papers. 8.15 Sunday. 8.50 Week's Good Cause.
9.00 News 9.10 Sunday Papers.
9.15 Letter From America by Alistair Cooke.
9.30 Morning Service from St Finnian's Church, Cregagh, Belfast.
10.15 The Archers.
11.15 Weekend.
12.00 Smash Of The Day: "I'm Sorry I'll Read That Again"
12.30 The Food Programme. 12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World This Weekend. 1.55 Shipping.
2.00 News; Gardeners' Question Time visits Sussex.
2.30 Afternoon Theatre "The Wasted Years" by Caryl Phillips. School story, with Tony Armatrading as the only black boy in the school class.
4.00 News; Talking Antiques.
4.30 The Living World.
5.00 News; Travel.
5.05 Down Your Way visits Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. 5.50 Shipping.
6.00 News.
6.15 Feedback with Simon Bates.
6.30 A Passage through the South Pacific.
7.00 Travel; The Birds of Dawning by John Masefield. Serial in six parts (4)†
7.30 Bookshelf.
8.00 In Spite of Ourselves. Dame Maria Boulding, OSB, explores our common experience of failure (2).
8.15 With Respect Ambassador. Simon Jenkins, explores myths and realities of the modern diplomat (3) The Twin Pillars.
8.45 Ad Hoc Adventures with Bob Symes with Woodley Light Operatic Society.
9.00 News; Kipps. 'The Story of a Simple Soul' by H. G. Wells (last of five parts).
10.00 News.
10.15 Bestseller. 'Paul and Virginia' by Jacques-Henri Bernardin de Saint-Pierre.
11.00 From Death To Life. Sue Talbot draws on the experiences of Christian friends as she finds links between giving birth and facing death.†
11.15 Inside Parliament.
12.00 News. 12.10 Weather. 12.15 Shipping. 12.23-12.28 The Chip Shop with Barry Norman.

Radio 3

7.55 Weather. 8.00 News.
8.05 Corelli's Op 6, includes Corelli's Concerti Grossi in C Op 6 No 10, and in F Op 6 No 12, played by La Petite Bande.† 9.00 News.
9.05 Your Concert Choice: works by Sibelius (String Quartet in D minor), Bach, and Berg (suite from Lulu: Anja Silja, soprano).†
10.30 Music Weekly: Includes Donald Mitchell talking about Mahler's Symph No 5; and conversations with Tortelier.†
11.20 From the Proms: Schutz's German Magnificat; Bach's Singet dem Herrn; and, at 11.50 Penderecki's St Luke Passion.†
1.15 Piano Trios: Raphael Trio play Haydn's Trio play Haydn's Trio in F sharp minor (H XV 26) and Brahms's Trio in B, Op 8.†
2.20 Wind from One to Five: works by Telemann, Beethoven (Duo No 1 in C), Poulenc, Frank Cordell (Patterns), and Hindemith (Kleine Kammermusik, Op 24 No 2).†
3.10 Stravinsky: London Sinfonietta, with its chorus, and soloists Ann Murray, Philip Langridge, Neil Jenkins, Thomas Allen and Terry Edwards.
4.10 The Devil to Pay: Jane Wenham reads Elaine Eveleigh's story.
4.30 Stravinsky: part two. Incl In Memoriam Dylan Thomas.†
5.15 The Troubled Dream: Prof A H Halsey, Director of Social Administration Studies, University of Oxford, examines the crisis facing the welfare state in Europe. With contributors from Sweden, France and Germany.
6.00 Music in Great Irish Houses: harpsichord recital by Malcolm Proud.†
6.40 Remaking the Brain: Prof Colin Blakemore talks to some of the world's leading researchers into the transplantation of brain tissue.
7.30 Beethoven: Missa Solemnis. Haitink / Philharmonia / Philharmonia Chorus and Soloists Helen Donath, Alfreda Hodgson, Robert Tear and John Shirley-Quirk.†
9.05 Brahms's Violin Sonatas: the No 2 in A Op 100 and the No 3 in D minor (Mutter/Weissenberg).†
9.45 Scottish National Orch: Wagner's A Faust Overture; Jonathan Harvey's Whom ye Adore; and Liszt's Mephisto Waltz No 1.†
10.30 Music of India: Rag Puria Kalyan - (Viram and Gopal Jasani, sitar and tanpura, and Latif Ahmed Khan, tabla.
11.15 News. Until 11.18.

Radio 2

4.00am Martin Stanford.† 6.00 Sheila Tracy.† 7.30 Paul McDowell with Norman St John-Stevas, MP, incl. 7.45 Bishop Bill Westwood. 9.00 David Jacobs with Melodies for You.† 11.00 Desmond Carrington Radio 2 All-Time Greats.† 12.30 Vince Hill's Solid Gold Music Show. 12.59 Sports. 1.00 Steve Jones with Two's Best.† 2.00 Benny Green.† 3.00 Alan Dell with Sounds Easy.† 4.00 String Sound with Jean Challis.† 4.30 Sing Something Simple.† 5.00 Charlie Chester with your Sunday Soapbox, incl. 5.58 Sports. 6.00 Comedy Classics: "The Men From The Ministry" (r). 6.30 Tommy Reilly. 7.00 Olympic Memories with Harry Carpenter. 7.30 Grand Hotel. 8.30 Sunday Half-Hour from Shankill Parish Church, Lurgan, Co Armagh. 9.00 Your Hundred Best Tunes. 10.02 Sports. 10.05 Marching and Waltzing. 11.00 Sounds of Jazz. 1.00am Peter Dickson presents Nightride.† 3.00-4.00 Steve Jones with Two's Best.†

Radio 1

6.00am Mark Page. 8.00 Tony Blackburn's Sunday Show. 10.00 Adrian Juste. 12.00pm Jimmy Savile's 'Old Record' Club. 2.00 Bruno Brookes. 4.30 The Great Rock 'N' Roll Trivia Quiz. 5.00 Top 40. 7.00 Anne Nightingale.† 9.00 Robbie Vincent.† 11.00-12.00 Gary Byrd's Sweet Inspirations.† 4.00am With Radio 2. 5.00pm With Radio 1. 12.00-4.00am With Radio 2.

World Service, facing page

BBC 1 WALES 6.00-6.05pm Sports news Wales. 1.10 Weatherman. SCOTLAND 6.00-6.05pm Scoreboard. 10.50-11.25 Sportscene. Includes highlights of today's match between Scotland and France. 11.25-12.00 James Last in Tralee. 12.00 midnight Weather. NORTHERN IRELAND 5.00-5.10pm Nothern Ireland Results. 6.00-6.05 Northern Ireland News. 10.50-11.45 St Patrick's night, starring Dana and guests. 11.45-12.20am James Last in Tralee. 12.20 Northern Ireland news. ENGLAND 6.00-6.05pm London Sport South West (Plymouth) Spotlight Sport All other English Regions Sport/Regional news. 1.15am Close.

ULSTER As London except: 9.25am Space 1999. 10.20-10.30 Cartoon. 4.55pm-5.00 Ulster Sports Results. 5.10 Fraggle Rock. 5.40-6.30 Whizz Kids. 11.25 Makem and Clancy, Music Makers. 12.20am News, Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 9.25am Thunderbirds. 10.20-10.30 Puffin's Pla(i)ce. 5.05pm Puffin's Pla(i)ce. 5.10 Fraggle Rock. 5.40-6.30 Whiz Kids. 11.25 Superstars of Music. 12.25am Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS FOR SATURDAY

SCOTTISH As London except: 9.25am Cartoon. 9.35 Happy Days. 10.00 Flying Kiwi. 1025-10.30 Cantinflas Show. 11.25pm Late Call. 11.30 Saturday Night Music Show: Tina Turner. 12.30 Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: Starts. 9.30am-10.30 Sesame Street. 11.25pm Chaka Khan at the Roxy, LA. 12.25am Recipe for Happiness, Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: Starts: 9.30am Noddy. 9.45 Smurfs. 10.10-10.30 Falcon Island. 11.25pm Devlin Connexion. 12.20am Reflections, Closedown.

BORDER As London except: 9.25am Vicky the Viking. 9.50 Once Upon a Time . . . Man. 10.15-10.30 Smurfs. 11.25pm Fugitive. 12.20am Closedown.

TVS As London except: 9.25am Wattoo Wattoo. 9.35 Smurfs. 10.00-10.30 Mork and Mindy. 5.35pm-6.30 Knight Rider. 11.25 Jazz. 11.55 Comedy Tonight. 12.25am Company, Closedown.

HTV 9.25am Sesame Street. 10.25-10.30 Cartoon. 11.25pm Best of Saturday Night Live: Michael Palin. 12.25am Closedown. HTV WALES: No variation.

CENTRAL As London except: 9.25am Professor Kitzel. 9.30-10.30 Sesame Street. 11.25pm Superstars of Music: Gloria Gaynor. 12.25am Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 9.25am Morning Glory. 9.30 Sport Billy. 9.55 Flying Kiwi. 10.25-10.30 TT Time. 11.25pm Journey to the Unknown. 12.25am Poet's Corner, Closedown.

TSW As London except: 9.25am Professor Kitzel. 9.30-10.30 Freeze Frame. 5.10 Fraggle Rock. 5.40-6.30 Whiz Kids. 11.25 Superstars of Music: Gloria Gaynor. 12.25am Postscript, Closedown.

S4C Starts. 1.20pm Week in Politics. 2.00 Henry Cooper's Golden Belt. 2.55 Rygbi Rhyngwladol: Lloegr v Cymru. 4.40 Coney Island. 5.05 Yr awr fawr. 6.05 Incredible Hulk. 7.00 Ser. 7.30 Newyddion. 7.45 Mentrol Mentro! 8.30 Treasure Hunt. 9.30 Y maes chwarea. 10.30 Arolwg. 11.00 Basketball. 12.55am Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 9.25am Sesame Street. 10.20-10.30 Cartoon. 11.25pm Film: Regan (John Thaw). 12.45am Randy Edelman in Concert. 1.30 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 9.25am Melotoons. 10.00-10.30 University Challenge. 11.25pm Snooker. 12.10am House Calls. 12.40 Closedown.

Regional Independent Television variations appear on the facing page.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

Gunmen seize envoy in Beirut

From Our Correspondent Beirut

An American diplomat was kidnapped in west Beirut yesterday by gunmen in civilian clothes as sporadic fighting continued between militiamen along the "Green Line" that divides the capital into Muslim and Christian sectors.

The missing diplomat, Mr William Buckley, has been a political officer at the US Embassy here since last July. Embassy officials said they did not believe he was working on any particularly sensitive assignment and knew of no motive for the abduction.

Witnesses said Mr Buckley was taken at gunpoint from his car at about 7.30 am just as he had begun the three-quarters of a mile car journey from his apartment to the embassy.

Mr Muhammad Moussa, the manager of the buildings where Mr Buckley lived, saw the incident. He said that three men in a white Renault blocked the path of Mr Buckley's car and one of the abductors then held a pistol to Mr Buckley's head forcing him to get into the Renault.

Mr Robert Pugh, an embassy official, told a news conference yesterday that there had been several reports of the Renault being sighted, all of them progressively further south of the abduction point. The final sighting was in the southern suburb of Khalde, from where the car could be driven south into Muslim-populated areas or into the Syrian-controlled mountains.

Mr Buckley is the third American to be kidnapped since Shia and Druse militias wrested control of west Beirut from the Lebanese army on February 6.

On February 10, Mr Frank Regier, a professor of engineering at the American University of Beirut, was abducted at gunpoint; on March 7, Mr Jeremy Levin, the Beirut chief for Cable News Network, was reported missing and feared kidnapped. All the missing Americans are believed to be in their early 50s.

The latest kidnapping occurred after the worst overnight fighting in Beirut since a ceasefire went into effect last Tuesday night. Muslim and Christian militiamen battled with mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and heavy machine guns throughout the night.

Sensitive fingers in the 'garden of heaven'







Mr Norman Cook (left) inspecting the blooms in the glasshouses at Wisley, while Mr Newton (top) feels the frost damage on a camellia tree. In the disabled peoples' garden, wheelchair-height flower beds make it easier for Mrs Margaret Bingham (bottom) (Photographs: John Voos)

By Patricia Clough

Long, sensitive fingers stroke the white camellia blossom with infinite care, reading the slight limpness of the petals and the tissue-paper dryness of their edges. Mr Reg Newton immediately knew what had escaped the eyes of dozens of other visitors. "The frost has got at these."

What a joke, chortled Mr Freddie Barratt, to serve one's guests purple chips. How, he wanted to know from the experts on the BBC radio programme *Gardeners' Question Time*, was, could he successfully grow the purple-fleshed *Congo potato? It did not bother him* that he would never be able to relish the expressions on his guests' faces, or the colour of his chips.

Mr Barratt and Mr Newton are blind. They are the founder-members of a group of 80 passionate gardeners who will never again see the glory of their herbaceous borders or the changing hue of their apples. For them the sheen on a rose or the colour of a hyacinth is only a memory.

The group are former Servicemen and women who mostly lost their sight in the Second World War. They formed the St Dunstan's Gardening Club and gather from all over the country twice a year for week-long courses of lectures, advice, and trips to outstanding gardens.

During last week's course at the Royal Horticultural Society's Wisley Garden in Surrey they formed the audience for *Gardeners' Question Time*, broadcast yesterday.

Mr Newton says you can feel if a plant needs water or has an iron deficiency.

He can even feel colours. "Darker-coloured flowers have slightly harder leaves, light-coloured ones are softer. When I divide up, say, wallflowers into dark and light colours, then call my wife, she rarely finds I am wrong. But I can't tell the difference between dark red and light red. No way."

Members of the group hoot with laughter at the idea that they can get little joy out of a garden they cannot see. "You can smell the flowers, can't you?" Mr Walter Bromley, of Clevelys, says. "And you can also feel them."

As they sipped tea after inspecting the glasshouses, one of them said: "The nearest thing to heaven is a garden."

Midlands miners rebuff left's call for national strike

Continued from page 1

Flying pickets from Yorkshire and South Wales arrived early yesterday at Littleton pit, near Cannock, where only a few of the morning shift at the mine, which employs 1,700, went to work. They withdrew as local pickets took their place.

Flying pickets from Yorkshire and South Wales also halted most production at Lea Hall Colliery, near Rugely, which employs 2,100 miners. About 350 men are thought to have defied pickets, but there were angry scenes at the colliery gates and two Doncaster miners were arrested.

Rugely magistrates later fined Terry Werrett £300 for threatening behaviour and his younger brother, Thomas, aged 20, £150 for obstruction. Both were bound over to keep the peace for two years.

Five pits in North Staffordshire were working normally and no pickets were in evidence, but in Warwickshire all four pits at Birch Coppice, Dawmill, Coventry Colliery and Baddesley, were halted and picketed by their own men.

Many local miners expressed fears that flying pickets would arrive if Midlands men voted against striking.

Mr Tony Morris, branch secretary at Lea Hall, said after witnessing the scenes early yesterday: "It is the saddest day of my working life to see miner shouting and spitting at miner".

Mr Denis Williams, Littleton branch delegate to the area council, said: "If the result is against a strike we will have picketing in such numbers of Yorkshire miners that it will be impossible for them to go to work".

The five North Staffordshire collieries still working last night were: Hem Heath; Florence; Wolstanton; Silverdale and Holditch.

In South Derbyshire, 200 pickets were reported at Cadley Hill, but it was still working. Three others were shut.

In North Derbyshire, all nine pits had been stopped.

In Nottinghamshire, 15 of 25 pits were on strike. Only four were producing coal.

Letter from Alaska

Last great race of the mushers

It is the Grand Prix of mushing. Alaskans, with their penchant for the romantic and dramatic, call it the "last great race". It is the ultimate test of their winter sport. Strung out across the icy wilderness 70 frozen-faced mushers are guiding their bucking, slithering dog-drawn sleds for 1,049 miles from Anchorage to Nome.

The race is the very stuff of Arctic adventure. It celebrates the trail-blazing of dog-sled teams in the gold-rush days and, in particular, the heroic high-speed sled run of 1925 which brought life-saving serum to Nome during an outbreak of diphtheria.

Dog sleds were carrying mail in Alaska up to 1962. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police replaced their last dog teams with machines in 1969. But sledding skills were carried on by devoted mushers, and the sport grew. Today there are several long-distance races, as well as numerous sprints of about 25 miles. The "last great race", always run in March, was started in 1973 and called the Iditarod, after one of the gold-rush towns on the way to Nome.

The race this year started on March 3 and ended Thursday night . Most mushers take between two and three weeks to cover the course, but it has been completed in as little as 12 days and as many as 32. The winner – this year Mr Dean Osmar of Clam Gulch – becomes an Alaskan hero and collects £17,000. The first 20 finishers share more than £70,000.

A musher has to be single-minded and tough. The racing is only the apex of a pyramid of preparation. He or she (there being a growing number of women mushers) has to develop and train a team of huskies. A dependable dog might cost from £500 to £1,000, an outstanding one £3,000. Established mushers breed their own to build a stock of perhaps 30 to 50 from which to make up racing teams six to 20 strong.

Sprint dogs are fairly light. Long-distance dogs have to have stamina and tough feet that resist tearing. They have to trot at 10 to 12 miles an hour, and spurt to 18. They have to be intelligent as well as tough, for the driver has no reins and works by calling out orders. Part of the skill and interest of mushing is in raising hard-working dogs and fitting them into the team. Some are natural lead dogs, others work better closer to the sled.

Mushers spend hours every day exercising and feeding their dogs, they need understanding wives – and employers. Mushers here reckon that they work 40 hours a week at their jobs and 60 hours on their dogs. They have been known to miss meals so that the huskies can eat, and the dogs' diets are of absorbing interest to their owners. Every musher has his formula for stamina and energy, his secret recipes of beaver meat, fish, vitamins and canned food.

Training is demanding. Mushers get up before dawn in sub-zero temperature to go out on training runs, and they have to keep up a programme of exercise during the summer when there is no racing.

It is a sport for loners. The musher's joy is to be out in the wilderness with his dogs pulling well; the silence broken only by the hiss of the sled runners. It is always a sport of great skill, a test of self-reliance, and when the weather is bad, it demands courage and endurance.

Long-distance mushers need financial backing for what is an expensive sport. Commercial sponsors have their name or logo painted on the sled, a good form of advertising because large crowds turn out for races which are well covered by newspapers, radio and television. Leading mushers become houshold names.

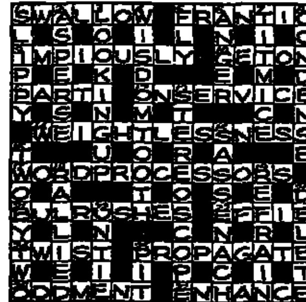
Dog-sled racing is growing in popularity, and its governing body hopes to see it made an Olympic event. Races like the Iditarod are strictly controlled. The sled has to carry a stipulated amount of equipment, dogs are checked by vets, mushers must make stops on the way and take a 24-hour rest. Tired or injured dogs are taken from the team and sent back to Anchorage.

One thing that modern mushers do not do is shout out "Mush" – a corruption of the command "Marchez" – as old-time Klondike and Yukon mushers used to. Mushers work out their own codes and commands . . . in long conversations with their beloved dogs.

Trevor Fishlock

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Solution of Puzzle No 16,375



Solution of Puzzle No 16,380

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,381

A prize of The Times Atlas of the World (comprehensive edition) will be given for the first three correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC99 9YT. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are:

Dr P. Dening-Smitherman, St. Helens, East Farleigh, Nr Maidstone, Kent; Mr J. W. Ludgate, 24 Pitman Close, Basingstoke; Mr D. J. Kelly, 17 Woodsyre, Sydenham Hill, London, SE26.

Address ……………………………………………

ACROSS

1 Break cryptic clue for the marines (4-4).
5 The chance on motorways of having an accident (6).
9 Fall about, Jack, do (8).
10 Analyse the quarter responsible for the rhino's skin (6).
12 Creature appearing briefly in wizard's realm (5).
13 Meet King and Lady X (3,6).
14 Added difficulty when member in pain is given an empty container (12).
18 Disposed to cry and sob, the resurrectionist (4-8).
21 Creature despatched, we hear, to hinder Frenchman's leaving (9).
23 Taking an article a little way (5).
24 Mind about a child (6).
25 One, for instance, hiding in a statuette (8).
26 The whole is over-elaborate, but about three quarters is plain (6).
27 Son is taken out to see the Serpentine at its best (8).

DOWN

1 Bully for Troy! (6).
2 The French camp shows potential (6).
3 Missiles to the right exercise rabbits (9).
4 It revolves with orderly pace, right? (6,6).
6 Preceding Bill is a son of Sarah (5).
7 Choir – its discordance is famous (8).
8 Countryman accepts money to be nice (8).
11 Slip in different directions (12).
15 Aghast when a point is given to the also-rans (3-6).
16 Alumni smoked under cover (8).
17 Sloth, perhaps, displayed in the garden by Harry (8).
19 About five, I have come to (6).
20 The way to reinstate engineers in the centre (6).
22 Decreases the means of restraint (5).

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 19

Today's events

Royal engagements

Princess Anne attends the National Shire Show at the East of England Showground, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, 11.15.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother presents Shamrock to the 1st Battalion Irish Guards at Munster, Germany, 11.15.

New exhibitions

Sculpture by Ron Martin; Meadowplace Gallery, 10 Victoria Chambers, **Dundee**; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Closed Tues, Sun 2 to 6 (ends April 7).

Great Britain – Town and Country; Original designs for Postage Stamps; George Room Gallery, Stroud Subscription Rooms, **Stroud**, Gloucestershire, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Suns (ends March 31)

Music

Concert by the Bristol University Chamber Choir and Orchestra, Clifton Cathedral, Pembroke Road, **Bristol**, 7.30.

Concert by the Belfast Baroque Consort, Harty Room, Queen's University, **Belfast**, 8.

Concert by the Northern Sinfonia, Polam Hall School, **Darlington**, 7.30.

Concert by the Chorister School, with David Hill (organ), Durham Cathedral, **Durham**, 7.30.

Concert by the Haydn Orchestra with Geraldine Hackett-Jones (soprano), Canterbury Cathedral, **Canterbury**, Kent, 7.30.

Concert by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Birmingham Town Hall, **Birmingham**, 7.

Tomorrow

Royal engagements

The Prince of Wales visits Tanzania, Zambia, Botswana and Zimbabwe; his Royal Highness, as a member of the Board of the Commonwealth Development Corporation, visits some of the Corporation's offices and projects in these countries; departs Heathrow, 3.15.

Music

Concert by the Royal Doulton Band, the Chapel, Keele University, 3.

Concert by Worksop College Choral Society, the Bassetlaw Centre, **Worksop**, Nottinghamshire, 7.30.

Recital by Anthea Gifford (guitar), Sidmouth Concert Society, Knowle, **Sidmouth**, 3.

Concert by the Vermyden Concert Band and the Rockingham Band, Brodsworth Welfare Hall, Woodlands, **Doncaster**, 7.

Recital of contemporary music by the Ganelin Trio, Strathallan Hotel, **Birmingham**, 8.

Recital by the Duo Classique, Coventry Guitar Circle, **Coventry**, 7.30.

Recital by Barthold Kuijken (flute) and Johann Sonnleitner (harpsichord), Midlands Arts Centre, Cannon Hill Park, **Birmingham**, 7.30.

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In the garden

In the southern half of the country one may prune roses now but in the cold northern districts it would be better to wait until early or mid-April. As soon as the top inch or two of soil are workable sow peas, broad beans, carrots and lettuces.

If it is intended to plant fruit trees or bushes the sooner they are in the ground the better. Indeed, all trees, shrubs, roses and herbaceous plants should be put in this month. If they are "container grown", of course, they may be planted at any time but one must be sure that the ball of soil is wet when planted and that they are well watered in spells of dry weather which we can have even as early as April.

Hedges, particularly, should be planted as soon as possible. Regular feeding every three or four weeks with a soluble fertilizer. RH

Gardens open

TODAY
The Heathers, 25 Winfield, Newent; Japanese style garden, rock garden, heathers; 2 to 6. **Sussex**: Borde Hill Garden, Haywards Heath; 20 acres rare trees, shrubs, many plants of botanical interest; P; every Saturday and Sunday 10 to 6.

Wigtownshire: Ardwell House Gardens, Ardwell, Stranraer; spring flowers, shrubs, rock plants; daily until end of October; 10 to 6.

TOMORROW:
Buckinghamshire: Great Barfield, Bradenham, 4m NW of High Wycombe, 4m S of Princes Risborough, off A4010; 1½ acres, many unusual plants, bulbs, herbaceous, shrubs, ground cover; 2 to 6. **Isle of Wight**: The Castle, St Helens, 5m E of Ryde; 5 acres, spring bulbs, interesting trees and shrubs; greenhouses; 2 to 5.

Anniversaries

Births: **Kate Greenaway**, illustrator, London, 1846; **Margaret Bondfield**, first woman chairman of the Trades Union Congress (1923), first woman Cabinet Minister (1929-31), Chard, Somerset, 1873; Today is the **Feast of Saint Patrick**, "Apostle of the Irish". It is known that he was born in Britain in *c* 390, and England, Scotland and Wales have all claimed his birthplace. In his youth he was kidnapped by pirates and held as a slave in Ireland for six years. He escaped to Britain where he must have received some training for the priesthood, for *c* 435 he returned to Ireland as the country's bishop, setting up his seat at Armagh.

TOMORROW:
Births: **Grover Cleveland**, 22nd (1885-89) and 24th (1893-97) President of the USA, Caldwell, New Jersey, 1837; **Stephen Mallarmé**, poet, Paris, 1842; **Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakov** (old style Mar.6), Tikhvin, Russia, 1844; **Rudolf Diesel**, inventor of the diesel internal combustion engine, 1858; **Neville Chamberlain**, Prime Minister, 1937-40, Birmingham, 1869; **Wilfred Owen**, poet; Oswestry, Shropshire, 1893. Deaths: **Robert Walpole, 1st Earl of Orford**, statesman, London, 1745; **Laurence Sterne**, author of *Tristram Shandy*, London, 1768; **Edward the Martyr**, King of the English (975-78) was murdered at Corfe, Dorset, 978.

Roads

Wales and West: M4: Lane closures for bridge inspection and repairs between junction 21 and junction 22 across Severn Bridge; both carriageways affected; also off-peak overnight closures. A4044: Restrictions northbound in Haymarket, Bristol, Avon; one lane only. A38: Lane closures between Plymouth and Ivybridge at Marsh Mills, Devon.

Midlands and East Anglia: A45: Lane closures east and westbound along Bury St Edmunds by pass, Suffolk. A45: Roadworks on Coventy-Daventry road at Fosse Crossing, Warwickshire. A6: Leicester-Derby road closed at Kegworth; diversion. A1: Safety barrier construction between Micklefield and Wetherby. A19: Traffic lights between Thirsk and Easingwold at Thormanby. A628: Single-lane traffic controlled by signals at Thrulstone River Bridge. A534: Sinle lane traffic and lights in Crewe Road, Winterley, Sandbach; delays.

Scotland: A82: Single-lane traffic on lights south of Drumnadrochit; care required. A92: Single-lane north of Barry, Angus. Two sets of single-lane traffic on lights. A7: Two sets of single-lane traffic on lights south of Gorebridge.

Information supplied by AA.

Summer time

Summer time begins at 1am Greenwich Mean Time on **Sunday, March 25**, when clocks should be put forward one hour to 2am. Summer time will end at 2am on **Sunday, October 28**.

Conveyancing news

Evidence is invited on consumer protection measures in the event of non-solicitors being permitted to undertake house conveyancing. The subject is being studied by a committee under the chairmanship of Professor Harry Street of the University of Manchester. The evidence is needed by April 19. It should be sent to the Secretary of the Committee, Mr Nick Smedley, at Neville House, Page Street, London SW1P 4LS.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.57	1.49
Austria Sch	27.80	26.20
Belgium Fr	82.75	78.75
Canada $	1.91	1.84
Denmark Kr	14.32	13.62
Finland Mkk	8.52	8.12
France Fr	11.98	11.48
Germany DM	3.90	3.72
Greece Dr	162.00	152.00
Hongkong $	11.75	11.15
Ireland Pt	1.28	1.22
Italy Lira	2410.00	2310.00
Japan Yen	342.00	326.00
Netherlands Gld	4.43	4.21
Norway Kr	11.38	10.78
Portugal Esc	196.00	186.00
South Africa Rd	1.96	1.82
Spain Pta	219.00	210.00
Sweden Kr	11.71	11.11
Switzerland Fr	3.24	3.07
USA $	1.49	1.44
Yugoslavia Dnr	191.00	181.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd.

Retail Price Index: 344.0.

London: The *FT*-Index closed 18.7 up at 894.3.

Weather

A rather cold easterly airstream covers Britain.

London, SE England, East Anglia: Mostly cloudy, perhaps light wintry showers, wind NE to E, light or moderate, max temp 4 to 6C (39 to 43F).

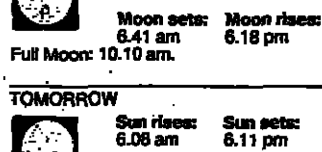
Central S, SW, central N England, E, W Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales. Some sunny or clear intervals; frost in places early and late; wind NE, light or moderate; max temp 6 to 8C (43 to 46F).

E, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Mostly cloudy, isolated light wintry showers; wind SE light or moderate; max temp 4 to 5C (39 to 41F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Argyll, Northern Ireland. Sunny or clear periods, frost early and late, some fog patches; wind variable, light; max 5 to 6C (41 to 43F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Monday: Little change, perhaps becoming a little warmer later.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea; Straits of Dover; English Channel (E): Wind E to NE fresh, occasionally strong; sea moderate or rough. St George's Channel; Irish Sea: Wind NE moderate or fresh; sea slight or moderate.



Sun rises: 6.10 am — Sun sets: 6.09 pm
Moon sets: 6.41 am — Moon rises: 6.18 pm
Full Moon: 10.10 am.

TOMORROW
Sun rises: 6.08 am — Sun sets: 6.11 pm
Moon sets: 6.59 am — Moon rises: 7.47 pm
Last quarter March 24.

Lighting-up time

London 6.39 pm to 5.38 am
Bristol 6.49 pm to 5.47 am
Edinburgh 6.51 pm to 5.50 am
Manchester 6.47 pm to 5.46 am
Penzance 7.01 pm to 5.59 am

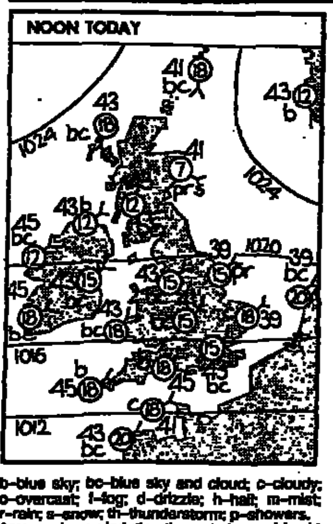
Lighting-up time

London 6.41 pm to 5.35 am
Bristol 6.50 pm to 5.45 am
Edinburgh 6.53 pm to 5.47 am
Manchester 6.49 pm to 5.44 am
Penzance 7.02 pm to 5.57 am

Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	F	
Scarboro	4.0	-	5	41	Sunny
Bridlington	3.2	-	6	43	Sunny am
Cromer	-	-	4	39	Dull
Lowestoft	0.1	-	4	39	Dull
Clacton	-	-	5	41	Cloudy
Margate	-	-	6	43	Cloudy
Folkestone	-	-	5	41	Dull
Hastings	3.1	-	7	45	Bright
Eastbourne	-				
Brighton	-	-	6	43	Sunny
Worthing	5.6	-	8	46	Bright
Littlehmptn	4.8	-	8	46	Sunny pm
Bognor R	8.8	-	8	46	Sunny
Southsea	8.7	-	9	48	Sunny
Shanklin	4.2	-	7	45	Sunny pm
Bournemouth	9.2	-	8	46	Sunny
Poole	8.5	-	7	45	Sunny
Swanage	8.6	-	7	45	Sunny
Guernsey	0.2	-	7	45	Cloudy
Scilly Isles	1.1	-	7	45	Bright pm
B'ham (Airpt)	-	-	4	39	Shwrs am
Bristol (Ctrl)	4.3	-	7	45	Sunny pm
Cardiff (Ctrl)	5.2	-	6	43	Sunny pm
Anglesey	6.2	-	7	45	Bright
B'pool (Airpt)	2.1	-	6	43	Cloudy
Manchester	5.3	-	7	45	Bright
Nottingham	0.2	-	4	39	Cloudy
N'cstl-n-Tyne	3.9	.07	6	43	Bright pm
Carlisle	6.1	-	7	45	Bright am
Eskdalemuir	6.5	-	6	43	Sunny
Prestwick	9.5	-	8	46	Sunny
Glasgow	7.7	-	7	45	Sunny
Tiree	4.4	-	7	45	Shwrs pm
Stornoway	3.4	.50	5	41	Hail pm
Lerwick	1.6	.04	5	41	Hail pm
Wick	4.1	.06	5	41	Showers
Edinburgh	9.4	-	7	45	Sunny
Aldergrove	9.9	-	7	45	Sunny

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)



b-blue sky; bc-blue sky and cloud; c-cloudy; o-overcast; f-fog; d-drizzle; h-hail; m-mist; r-rain; s-snow; th-thunderstorm; p-showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures fahrenheit.

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; sn, snow; sl, sleet; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	5	41	Guernsey	c	4	39
Birmingham	r	3	37	Inverness	c	6	43
Blackpool	c	5	41	Jersey	c	6	43
Bristol	c	4	39	London	c	5	41
Cardiff	c	4	39	Manchester	c	5	41
Edinburgh	f	5	41	Newcastle	r	3	37
Glasgow	f	7	45	Ronaldsway	f	5	41

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 6C (43F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 1C (34F). Humidity: 6 pm, 67 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1014.7 millibars, rising 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Southsea 9C (48F); lowest day max: Nottingham 4C (39F); highest rainfall: Stornoway 0.50 in; highest sunshine: Belfast 9.9 hr.

High tides

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TOMORROW	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1.31	7.1	1.58	7.6	London Bridge	2.18	7.4	2.44	7.7
Aberdeen	1.03	4.4	1.10	4.5	Aberdeen	1.47	4.5	1.54	4.7
Avonmouth	7.07	13.7	7.37	13.9	Avonmouth	7.52	14.2	8.19	14.3
Belfast	10.47	3.7	11.13	3.4	Belfast	11.32	3.8	11.58	3.4
Cardiff	6.52	12.6	7.22	12.8	Cardiff	7.37	13.1	8.04	13.1
Devonport	5.51	5.8	6.23	5.7	Devonport	6.41	6.0	7.09	5.8
Dover	10.49	6.7	11.15	6.9	Dover	11.34	6.8	11.59	7.0
Falmouth	5.21	5.6	5.53	5.5	Falmouth	6.11	5.8	6.39	5.6
Glasgow	12.44	4.4	12.48	4.8	Glasgow	1.23	4.4	1.30	5.0
Harwich	11.55	4.1			Harwich	12.06	3.9	12.40	4.2
Holyhead	10.06	5.9	10.33	5.8	Holyhead	10.48	6.1	11.13	5.9
Hull	6.14	7.6	6.18	7.8	Hull	6.53	7.8	6.59	8.2
Ilfracombe	5.53	9.5	6.18	9.8	Ilfracombe	6.36	9.9	7.00	9.8
Leith	2.09	5.6	2.38	5.8	Leith	3.00	5.8	3.19	6.0
Liverpool	11.09	9.9	11.34	9.9	Liverpool	11.54	10.2		
Lowestoft	9.35	2.5	9.38	2.5	Lowestoft	10.19	2.6	10.29	2.6
Margate			12.11	4.9	Margate	12.18	4.9	12.57	4.9
Milford Haven	6.07	7.4	6.32	7.4	Milford Haven	6.50	7.7	7.14	7.6
Newquay	4.58	7.4	5.22	7.4	Newquay	5.40	7.7	6.04	7.5
Oban	5.41	4.2	6.16	4.1	Oban	6.19	4.4	6.50	4.2
Penzance	4.47	5.9	5.20	5.8	Penzance	5.39	6.1	6.08	5.9
Portland	6.48	2.4	7.39	2.2	Portland	7.34	2.5	8.18	2.4
Portsmouth	11.17	4.7	11.48	4.9	Portsmouth			12.02	4.9
Shoreham	11.04	6.5	11.35	6.7	Shoreham	11.50	6.6		4.5
Southampton	10.40	4.6	11.10	4.8	Southampton	11.23	4.7	11.52	10.2
Swansea	6.14	9.9	6.41	10.0	Swansea	6.59	10.3	7.21	5.9
Tees	3.31	5.5	3.42	5.8	Tees	4.14	5.7	4.26	4.5
Walton-on-Naze	11.47	4.4			Walton-on-Naze	12.03	4.3	12.31	

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	c	12	54	Copenhgn	sn	0	32	Majorca	th	11	52	Rio de Jan*	s	25	79
Akrotiri	f	16	61	Corfu	f	12	54	Malaga	f	14	57	Rome*	s	13	55
Alexandria				Dallas*	f	24	75	Malta	c	14	57	Salzburg	s	8	46
Algiers	f	16	61	Dublin	c	4	39	Melbourne	f	19	66	Sao Paulo*	c	27	81
Amsterdam	f	4	39	Dubrovnik	s	12	54	Mexico C*	s	22	70	S Francisco*		16	61
Athens	f	12	54	Faro	f	13	55	Miami*	s	25	79	Santiago*	c	26	79
Bahrain				Florence*	f	12	54	Milan	s	10	50	Seoul	s	6	43
Barbados*	c	28	82	Frankfurt	s	8	46	Montreal*	s	-4	25	Singapore	c	29	84
Barcelona	r	7	45	Funchal	f	16	61	Moscow	c	0	32	Stockholm	s	-1	30
Beirut				Geneva	s	8	46	Munich	s	7	45	Strasbourg	s	8	46
Belgrade	c	7	45	Gibraltar	f	14	57	Nairobi				Sydney	c	22	72
Berlin	s	4	39	Helsinki	s	-1	30	Naples				Tangier			
Bermuda*	f	15	59	Hongkong	f	26	79	New Delhi	s	30	86	Tel Aviv	f	15	59
Biarritz	c	9	48	Innsbruck	s	7	45	New York*	s	7	45	Tenerife	dr	16	61
Boulogne	dr	6	43	Istanbul	c	5	41	Nice	r	8	46	Tokyo	f	8	46
Bordeaux	s	11	52	Jiddah	s	31	88	Oslo	s	3	37	Toronto*	f	2	36
Brussels	s	5	41	Jo'burg	s	27	81	Ottowa				Tunis	f	12	54
Budapest	r	7	45	Karachi	r	26	79	Paris	s	6	43	Valencia	c	12	54
Buen Aires*	f	26	79	Las Palmas	f	19	66	Peking	s	9	48	Vancouver*	c	9	48